

BARRE GAZETTE

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Selectmen delay paving of Loring Road

Residents wish
for the road to
remain gravel

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – Sarah Latka of Loring Road read a letter at the Sept. 21 board of selectmen's

meeting regarding the proposed paving of the road.

She said she wanted her letter entered as a public record. She said she was concerned with Barre's paving its gravel roads. She said gravel roads are scenic and she enjoys walks and watching amphibians crossing the road. She also said color of asphalt detracts from the view and scenic road and asphalt roads increase speed.

In her letter, she said several paved roads in town were in terrible condition such as Town Farm Road and Williamsville Road and the funds should be allocated to those roads.

Selectman Matthew Urban said the goal was to pave a gravel road each year. He said gravel roads required a lot of maintenance, needed to be graded two times a year and washed out in storms.

Selectmen said they would take a poll of neighbors on Loring Road. Selectman Urban said the board would discuss this at the next Department of Public Works. He also said the DPW needed to do a better job coordinating with residents of the gravel roads. Urban said he understood her concerns and said once Kendall Road was paved speeding increased.

Selectman Urban made a

motion to stop paving of Loring Road until residents could voice their concerns at a DPW meeting. The board approved the motion.

Police surplus equipment
Barre Police Chief John Carbone requested selling used equipment his department no longer needs. Selectmen unanimously approved the chief's request to trade in three old shotguns and sell green globes, no longer in use.

Contract extensions
Selectmen also approved contract extensions until June 30, 2021 for All State Asphalt, Inc., Sunderland for full reclamation and for chip spreader with operator at \$300 per hour. The board approved contract extensions to June 30, 2021 for Palmer Paving in Palmer for cold patch at \$100

See BARRE, page 5



Turley Publications Photo by Eileen Kennedy

HARDWICK – The colors on the Hardwick Common are brilliant as fall comes to New England, putting colorful manmade objects to shame.

New Braintree Select board signs Charter contract

NEW BRAINTREE – Select board chair Randy Walker said the Aug. 10 meeting was being held regarding the contract with Charter Communications and the town. Kristen Thacker, executive secretary, said one of the requirements was for the town to publish a public hearing notice in a local newspaper for two consecutive weeks. She said the notice ran in the Barre Gazette for weeks of July 30 and Aug. 6, 2020.

Select board member Joe

Chenevert said the contract was sent to town counsel for review. The board received a letter back from town counsel saying the contract looked good and town counsel had no issues with the said contract.

Resident Andrew May asked Thacker if she knew what roads were going to be covered within this infrastructure that was going to be built. She said they did not know and were told that there would be no way to tell until the

whole project is complete. May said he was concerned his taxes would be going up and he could possibly be one of the homes that was not going to be covered.

Thacker said if he had a pole near his driveway, which provided electricity there would be a good chance that he would be okay when it came to Charter's cable.

Select board member Chenevert made a motion to sign the contract between Charter Communications and the town

of New Braintree for Charter Communications to provide Internet to the town. Select board member Bill Howland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Superintendent of Schools

Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Sheila Muir said she was here to address the letter she had received from the select board in regards to the

See NEW BRAINTREE,
page 6

Barre Gazette saturates towns

Dear Reader:

We are pleased to provide this week's issue of *The Barre Gazette* to every resident in our coverage area. Enclosed you will find a remittance envelope that you may submit to either extend your current subscription or start a new subscription.

We resisted the temptation to take to the phones, interrupt your dinner and make our subscription pitch. Instead, our preferred way of continuously growing our readership is to share a couple of copies of the paper with you for free, enclose a subscription envelope and await the returns. We're proud of our work and hope you find it brings you closer to understanding your community. We're hoping for a good response from this campaign because we'll then be able to provide even more value to the local businesses that support us. The envelopes are provided for your convenience, but do not mean your current subscription has expired.

There are no plans to rest on our laurels. Our pledge is to continue to work hard at providing even better local news coverage. Your suggestions as to how we can do a better job are always welcome. We're a family-owned company with a deep commitment to the towns we serve. We want to meet, and if possible, exceed your expectations.

We'll be arriving at your home next week, too. So please take a moment to consider the service we provide and enjoy the paper. We hope to be arriving at your home every week for years to come. Thanks so much. Enjoy the rest of your fall.

Sincerely,
Patrick Turley
Publisher

Hubbardston voters say yes to all articles

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

HUBBARDSTON – It took Hubbardston voters about 30 minutes to say yes to all six articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant Thursday, Sept. 24.

The first article amended the budget vote taken at the Annual Town Meeting June 20, 2020. The article moved to reduce by \$50,000 the money from free cash as it was no longer needed. Town Administrator Ryan McLane said at the time of the ATM, town's new growth amount was an estimate and state aid was an estimate based on a 16% reduction of the 2008 state aid as recommended by the state. The town new growth amount was \$14,500. Governor Baker in July said state aid would be level funded. The total amended budget, which included a transfer

of \$100,000 from free cash, was \$3,919,248.99. It did not include the Quabbin Regional School District assessment as article two addressed the school budget.

The budget recommended by the board of selectmen and finance committee included \$850,169.99 general government, \$1,361,590 public safety, \$839,688 public works, \$615,351 direct costs and \$252,450 debt. The amended budget added \$2,000 to legal costs, \$1,520 to assessing assistant and \$1,000 to building maintenance. The article passed with two opposed.

Voters also said yes to the QRSD assessment of \$4,879,933 in article 2 with two opposed. The amount was an additional \$14,000 to meet the state minimum requirement. The school district used

See HUBBARDSTON, page 6

Barre Food Pantry to hold distributions

BARRE -he next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursday, Oct. 15 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Barre Food Pantry schedules their two distributions each month on the morning of the second Wednesday and the evening of the third Thursday. Once in a while, when the first of the month falls on a Thursday, the third Thursday occurs on the day right after the second Wednesday. As that is happening in October this year, both distributions will occur on successive days. This will still offer opportunities for clients to pick up food from the food pantry either in the morning Wednesday,

Oct. 14 or in the evening on Thursday, Oct. 15, whichever is the more convenient for them.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients. The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the catastrophic spread of the novel COVID-19 virus to which no-one has immunity. Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions.

Since the late March distribution, in order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients, Oct. 14 and 15 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east)

entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers. Based on the success of the spring and summer distributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

Usually Pantry volunteers and clients are able to greet each other with a smile.

With all the volunteers and many clients now wearing masks in public, the volunteers encourage everyone to wear a mask of

See FOOD PANTRY,
page 7

Farmers' market continues through October



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo by Lynn Hartman

Ladybug Farm in Hubbardston offers organic produce every Saturday at the Barre Farmers' Market from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common. The market will continue through October.



News of the Towns



Round Town

Ellenor Downer
413-967-3505

WIC offers remote appointments

WIC is continuing to provide remote services, rather than come to the Barre Health Center as they used to due to COVID-19. All forms of appointments are being done over the phone. Participants can get in touch with WIC by emailing wic@mocinc.org or calling WIC at 978-345-6272.

Christmas in October craft fair

A Christmas in October craft fair sponsored by Christmas in Barre will be held Saturday, Oct. 24 on Barre South Common from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 25. The craft fair features over 20 local artists and crafters find the perfect gift or stocking stuffer maple syrup, honey, handmade soaps, jellies and jams, vinegars , handmade knitted and crocheted items, pillows, handcrafted jewelry, headbands, wooden sign and decorations, candles, decorated gourds, painted bottles and jars, nature photography, magnets, calendars, greeting cards, candy cookies, wooden carvings, Christmas decorations, and much more.

Drve thru dinner

The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will hold a drive thru roast beef dinner Saturday, Oct. 10 with pick up from 5-5:30 p.m. People should RSVP to Lisa Holloway at 978-355-0140. Cost is \$12 per adult and \$5 per child.

Farmers' market

The Barre Farmers' Market takes place every Saturday on the Barre Common from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The farmers' market now has raspberries, apples, peaches, corn, tomatoes, summer squash, zucchini, cucumbers and much more.

Friends group presents 'Ghosts and Legends'

NEW BRAINTREE — Just in time for Halloween, prepare to explore the unexplained as the New Braintree Library Friends' Group presents Ghosts and Legends with Jeff Belanger on Friday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. in an entertaining and seasonal virtual presentation. A natural storyteller, Belanger is an award winning, Emmy nominated host, writer and producer of the New England Legends series on PBS and Amazon Prime and is the author of over a dozen books (published in six languages). He also hosts the New England Legends weekly podcast, which has garnered over two million downloads since it was launched.

This free holiday event requires advanced registration at <https://jeffbelanger.com/.../ghosts-and-legends-with-.../>. Upon registering, a link will be emailed to join the meeting.

The program is sponsored by the Friends of New Braintree Library, with a grant from the Hardwick/ New Braintree Cultural Council, a division of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more information, people may email salvadorejme@aol.com or call 508-867-3985.

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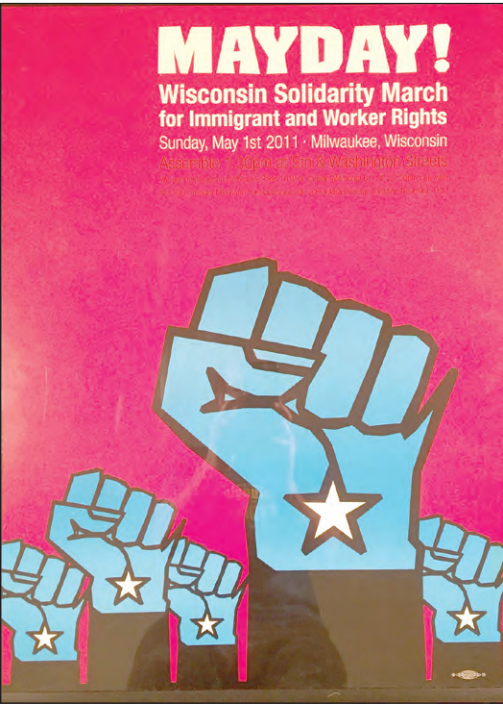
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Library hosts May Day posters



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

Stephen Lewis will be exhibiting May Day posters from his collection at the Rutland Free Public Library during the month of October. The Rutland Cultural Council supports in part the exhibit through a grant.

RUTLAND — People in the Rutland area will have a chance to have a taste of May Day from round the world, with a poster exhibit at the Rutland Free Public Library during the month of October. Stephen Lewis will be exhibiting May Day posters at the library. Lewis has numerous May Day posters that he has collected, from France, Spain, Namibia, Australia, Denmark, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Germany and Liechtenstein to name a few.

The exhibit is part, graphic art, part history, part culture and part political message. Artists may appreciate the various ways a theme is depicted by many different artists, hailing from different countries and cultures. Lewis has made the foreign language posters more accessible by including translation of key phrases, to English. Historians can see what social and political changes were being advocated for in different countries at different times. Activists can see some of their favorite causes, including the celebration of May Day itself, agitated for in these posters. The exhibit was originally scheduled for May. Then the coronavirus struck.

People may visit the exhibit and appreciate the struggle of workers round the world to achieve better working con-

ditions and benefits which some enjoy today and many more continue to struggle for. A part of the legacy of May Day was the struggle for the eight-hour workday. That struggle for shorter working days was the cause of the famous Bread and Roses Strike, which took place in Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1912. Fittingly, Lewis is on the board of directors that runs the annual commemoration of that struggle on Labor Day, in Lawrence.

These projects are supported in part by a grant from the Rutland Cultural Council, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency and by Roofers Local 33, Asbestos Workers Local 6, IBEW Local 103 and Painters DC 35.

Lewis has a collection of 9,000 posters, which he exhibits regularly around Massachusetts. The exhibits in general are about labor and progressive political issues. He can be reached at lewisposters@gmail.com. When most Americans think of May Day, they think of tanks parading through the streets of Moscow. May Day, the first of May is known throughout much of the world as the day for workers. While May Day eventually turned out to not be such a great deal for many workers

in Russia, it is none the less celebrated today in over one hundred countries by workers, many of them members of trade unions. And in most countries, the celebrations are not about military parades, rather about highlighting struggles workers are going through. The reason it is not celebrated in a number of other countries, is because organized workers are severely repressed. It is not a recognized holiday in the U.S. and Canada. Instead, those two countries celebrate Labor Day. The reason for this is that the celebration of May Day was linked to Communism, Socialism, militant workers and other activists who fought for improving the lot of workers. This is not something the people in power in this country wanted to celebrate. The irony of this is that the movement of celebrating May Day as a workers' holiday emanated from right here in the US. A national strike was called for May 1, 1886, if Congress did not pass legislation shortening the workday to eight hours. On May 1, 60,000 workers went on strike in Chicago. The strike gained momentum and two days later the police shot several strikers. Following further violence in Chicago, the movement spread worldwide. The struggle for the eight-hour day was realized years later.

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Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Dog licenses due

Dog licenses are past due. Residents, who have not registered their dog in 2020, should do so at their earliest convenience. Although late fees have been waived for the remainder of the year, dog licenses are still required by law in the State of Massachusetts. If the owner's dog has an expired rabies and his or her vet has scheduled out the appointment due to COVID-19, the owner should contact the Town Clerk's office at 978-928-1400, extension 2020 or tclerk@hubbardstonma.us to ensure the file has been marked accordingly. Animal Control has begun issuing fines for non-compliance. Dogs may be licensed in person by appointment or online by clicking the following link: <https://unipay-gold.unibank.com/customerinfo.aspx>.

Medicare open enrollment

It's that time of year again for Medicare enrollment. During the annual Medicare Open Enrollment Period from Thursday, Oct. 15 through Tuesday, Dec. 7, people have a chance to change their Medicare plan for next year. A trained Serving Health Insurance Needs of Everyone counselor provides free unbiased help so people can better understand their plan changes, as well as options to save on Medicare healthcare costs. People may call the Hubbardston Senior Center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 and ask for a SHINE phone appointment.

Senior activities

The Hubbardston Senior Center is slowly opening. They have rented a 30 x 30 tent so that the seniors will be able to start some social activities outside, limited to 10 people at a time to start. People should call the senior center to register for any of the activities below: Mondays from 9 to 11 a.m. Coffee with Friends, from noon-3 p.m. Bingo: People should call Flo to register at 978-928-5113. Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Walking Club Richard Hackett. Meet outside of center Wednesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Coffee with Friends, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Trim Together 11 a.m. to noon, Book Club Thursdays 9 to 11 a.m., Walking Club. People may call Mel 978-928-5120 Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Meals on Wheels egg and food distribution. This schedule will be effective for the month of September (subject to change).

New Braintree receives Green Communities grant

NEW BRAINTREE – The town of New Braintree is the recipient of a Green Communities competitive grant of \$173,109 for energy efficiency projects in municipal buildings. On Aug. 27, the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources awarded \$13,000,558 in Green Communities competitive grants to 103 municipalities across Massachusetts to fund clean energy projects.

The award will fund the following projects in the town: \$58,700 for LED lighting at New Braintree Grade School, \$25,791 for LED lighting at Town Hall, \$82,118 for weatherization at New Braintree Grade School and \$6,500 for grant administration. The town of New Braintree is pleased to be making these improvements to its elementary school and the town hall that will provide energy and cost savings for the town.

As Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito said, “The Green Communities program gives our dedicated municipal partners the resources they need to continue making progress in increasing energy efficiency and lowering energy costs. We look forward to seeing the continued growth in energy innovation and energy savings that these grants will enable in towns and cities across the Commonwealth.”

Cities and towns must meet five criteria to be designated a Green Community and receive funding. Two hundred seventy one Massachusetts cities and towns have earned the Green Communities designation, which accounts for 84 % of the Commonwealth's population. This ninth annual round of DOER Green Communities competitive grants is awarded to existing Green Communities that have successfully invested their initial designation grants and previous competitive grant awards. New Braintree was designated as a Green Community in 2018 and fully invested their designation grant funds in 2019.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Note: Many meetings are closed to the public or will be held remotely.

BARRE

Finance Committee – Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Historical Commission – Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.
Board of Assessors – Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.
Felton Field Commission – Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Board – Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Oct. 7 at 1 p.m.
Water Commission – Oct. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
DPW Commission – Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.
Cable Advisory Committee – Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.
Conservation Committee – Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.
Library Trustees – Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
Sewer Commission – Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.
Board of Health – Nov. 9 at 5 p.m.

HARDWICK

Board of Health – Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.
Recycling Commission – Oct. 3 at noon and Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Wheelwright Water District – Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Oct. 8 at 9:30 a.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – Oct. 9 at 4 p.m.
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – Oct. 13 at 5:30 p.m.
Planning Board – Oct. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Gilbertville Water District – Oct. 20 at 5:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Registrars – Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

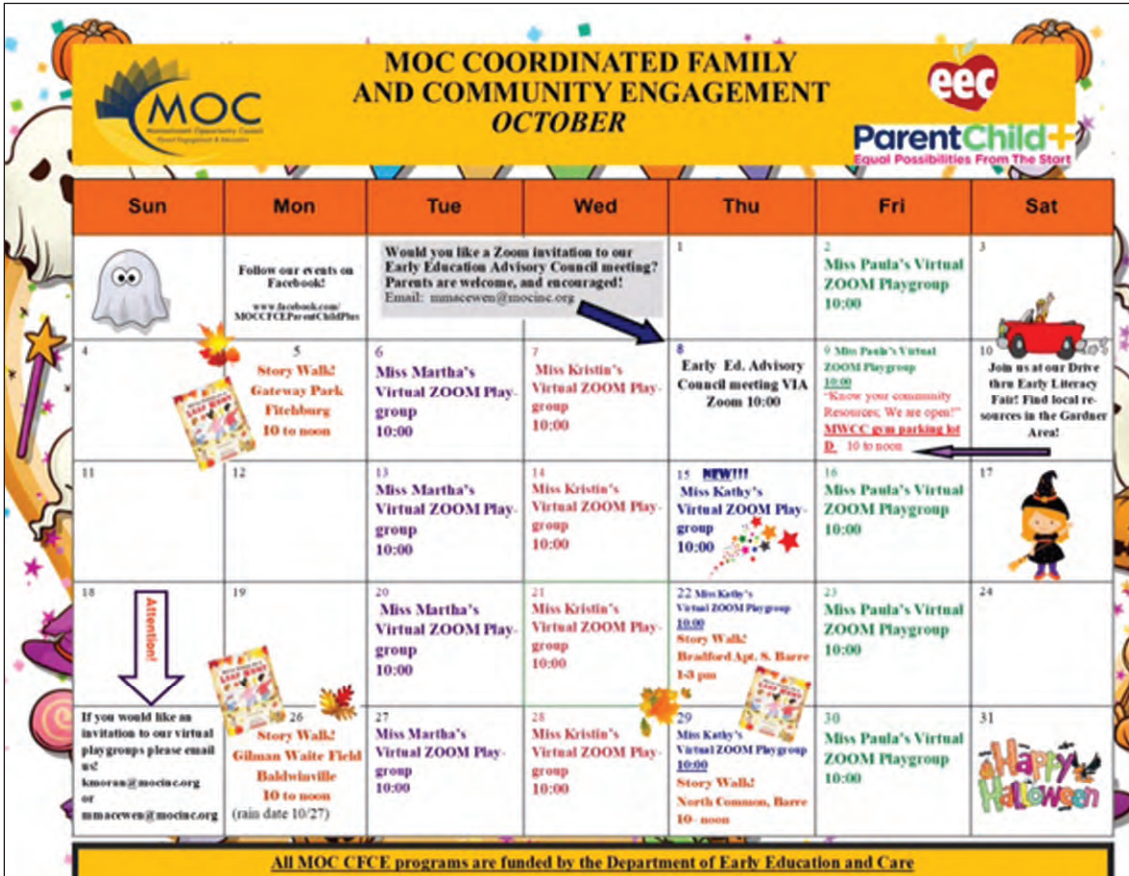
Planning Board – Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Library Trustees – Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.
Historic Commission – Oct. 3 at 10 a.m.
Conservation Commission – Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.
Town Center Committee – Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
Open Space Committee – Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Board of Health – Oct. 1 and Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.
Open Space and Recreation Committee – Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.
Petersham Historic District – Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.
Board of Assessors – Oct. 16 at 11 a.m.
Planning Board – Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – Nov. 9 at 10 a.m.

RUTLAND

Public Hearing Pole Hearing Select Board – Oct. 5 at 6 p.m.
Ad Hoc By-Law Committee – Oct. 6 at 1 p.m.
Planning Board Public Hearing – Oct. 13 at 6:50 p.m.



Courtesy photo

Shown is MOC's calendar of events for October. All MOC CFCE programs are funded by the Department of Early Education and Care.

Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

The trustees of Eastern States Exposition announce that the 2020 Big E, West Springfield, has been cancelled for this year. It will return next year Sept. 17 to Oct. 3, 2021.

Grandview Terrace Association bazaar will not be held this October.

The 42nd Apple Country Fair, which was originally scheduled for Oct. 10 has been cancelled. People may still buy raffle tickets for the quilt for just \$5. People may buy quilt raffle tickets online at www.applecountryfair.com.

If they are uncomfortable buying tickets online, they can see any of the Brookfield Community Club board members to purchase tickets as well. They can also call Lois O'Leary at the Town Hall to make an appointment to stop in and see her at (508) 867-2930, extension 24. Drawing will be held live on the Apple Country Fair Facebook page, Oct. 10 at 4 p.m. Next year's Fair will be Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 on the Brookfield Common.

St. Mary's Women's Club of Orange cancelled its Annual

Fall Parish Fair. The decision was made to cancel the fair and try to hold the fair or at least parts of the fair, in the spring. It is unclear yet what this means, but most likely the chili, beans, beef stew and pies will be offered as take out and the raffles for cash and scratch tickets, restaurant gift certificates, etc. will be held in the spring. Club members will be soliciting gift certificates after the New Year for the Restaurant Raffle, and members will be selling raffle tickets in early spring. The date for the fair and drawings will be set in the early spring.

QCC hosts flu clinic and continues drive-thru COVID-19 testing

WORCESTER –Quinsigamond Community College is offering walk-in flu clinics for the public Thursday, Oct. 1 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the college's main campus, 670 West Boylston St., Lot 3. Those attending the flu clinic are asked to bring their insurance cards. Flu shots are free with most insurances. This year the influenza immunization will be required for all students attending Massachusetts colleges and universities.

"The new vaccine requirement is an important step in reducing flu-related illnesses. Flu symptoms can be comparable with those of

COVID-19, so getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever during 2020-2021, to protect yourself and the people around you from the flu," said QCC community public health specialist/consultant, Susan Johnson. "We ask that people do not attend the flu clinic if they are feeling sick, have a fever or are exhibiting any respiratory symptoms."

Free COVID-19 testing will also be available Oct. 1 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with no appointment required. The free COVID-19 testing will continue through Oct. 31 by appointment only on the college's main campus, Lot

3. Testing is being conducted by AIDS Project Worcester, Inc., as part of the Commonwealth's "Stop the Spread" program. People may call 508-847-0623 for an appointment.

For more information and answers to frequently asked questions, such as what types of flu vaccine will be offered, what age groups are eligible, etc., people may visit QCC's Health and Wellness page at www.QCC.edu/health-wellness. For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, director of institutional communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE – Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of Oct. 5.

Meal sites are closed and there are only Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. — Lasagna and meatballs, green beans, vanilla pudding, diet = sugar free vanilla pudding, Italian bread

TUES. — Chicken fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pineapple, pita bread

WED. — Roast pork with gravy, cranberry stuffing, roasted California vegetables, apple-sauce, white peasant bread

THURS. — Beef with onions and peppers, potato wedges, honey glazed carrots, fresh fruit, sandwich roll

FRI. — Potato crunch fish, garlic mashed potatoes, peas and pearl onions, Oreos, pumpernickel bread

*Diabetic friendly dessert
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Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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Oakham

Ellenor Downer

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STM set for Nov. 2

The Oakham Board of Selectmen voted Friday morning to hold the Special Town Meeting Monday, Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Oakham Fire Station. The deadline to submit articles for the STM is Monday, Oct. 5 by 5 p.m.

Senior grab and go lunches

The Back Door Cafe started providing grab and go lunches Sept. 21. The lunches feature meal site meals and are available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. To place a reservation for a meal, peoples must call 508-882-5251 at least 48 hours ahead. They may order meals for more than one day to make it easier. Seniors should call Tuesday for at Thursday meal and call Thursday for a Monday meal, as the site is not open Fridays. People then drive to the back of the Oakham Town Hall at the time arranged. They stay in their vehicle while receiving their meal. Suggested donation for each meal is \$2.50.

Fall workshop

The Oakham Council on Aging will offer a fall workshop with Bemis Farms. The grab and go kits will be assembled outdoors under a tent canopy on the Oakham Common. The project will be decided by the first of the three projects to get ten or more votes. Project choices are cornstalk porch pot, nice asters pot and hydrangea stalk porch pot. People should call Lucy at 508-882-3358 if they are interested and which one they would like to do. The number of participants are limited so call early.

BSER to hold shavings sale

Bay State Equine Rescue will hold its fall shavings sale. BSER is working with Camp Marshall and the supplier to arrange a delivery date during the week. Due to the pandemic a weekend pickup would most likely not be possible. BSER will know by Oct. 12 which morning. BESER is hoping for a Tuesday or Wednesday delivery. Everyone who places an order will be notified the exact date once known. Volunteers will load shavings into vehicles like the last time. Shavings pickup will be at Camp Marshall, 92 McCormick Road, Spencer from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Minimum shaving order is ten. Cost is \$4.90 per plastic wrapped bale up to 199 and \$4.75 per bale for 200 and up. Bales are 3.25 cubic feet compressed or 7.5 cubic feet loose. To order shavings, people should contact Sharon at 508-892-0233 or sah@baystate-equinrescue.com. The rescue can use all the support it can get given these difficult times.

Tours of Oakham Museum

Tours of the Oakham Historical Museum and the Young Family Annex are available by appointment. During a private tour, visitors may enjoy browsing several photo albums that have been recently refurbished and reorganized. The albums contain photos of Oakham people and events from the 1800s into current times. A second exhibit displays a preservation project for a scrapbook containing news clippings from The Worcester Telegram during 1915-1920, which describe an extensive range of social and political life, family life and town events. Both of these projects were made possible with grants awarded by the Oakham Cultural Council, a local entity of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Individuals interested in visiting the Museum

See OAKHAM, page 8

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Opinion

In My Backyard

Most people know the old saying, “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” I’ll take the two in the bush. Last Sunday, I had a hermit thrush and a cedar wax-wing eating pokeweed berries in my yard at the same time.

The hermit thrush is 7 ½ inches long. It has a brown head, back and wings with a reddish brown tail. It has a white breast with spotting on the breast. It also has a white eye ring. It feeds mostly on the ground, eating insects, spiders, earthworms, snails, wild berries and fruit. Its voice is one long whistle followed by three or four higher and differently pitched whistles. Its call is a soft “chuck” and a whining “tweee.” The hermit thrush has a habit of slightly raising or lowering its tail, which is often accompanied by a “chuck” call. It also frequently flicks wings and sings on migration.

The female lays three to six light blue or blue green eggs in a nest of mosses, grasses and rotted wood lined with rootlets, bark strips and other fine materials. The nest is either built on the ground or two to eight feet above ground in a bush or tree.

Other backyard birds

I also saw a male common yellow throat the day before. I heard its “tchat, tchat” call and looked toward the sound. I’ve also seen a female as well. The catbird is still here. However, I have not seen a hummingbird in two weeks. I still have one nectar feeder up. I’ve only seen the downy woodpecker at the feeder.

Loon Preservation Committee rescues

I received an electronic newsletter from the Loon Preservation Committee in New Hampshire. They reported responding to two calls in August about distressed loons, one at Nubanusit Lake and the other at Lake Sunapee. Both loons were tangled in fishing line. The loon at Nubanusit Lake, despite the efforts of a team of veterinarians and wildlife rehabilitators, did not survive. The letter said, “Thanks to a dedicated team of lake residents and volunteers who stayed with the loon until we could arrive, LPC staff were able to quickly locate, capture and untangle the loon. The loon was given a health exam, including a test of its blood for lead. Since its lead levels were low and it was incredibly energetic in hand, the loon was determined to be fit for release. We banded it so that we can track its progress, and Lake Sunapee residents have continued to keep an eye out for it in the weeks since its rescue.”

A male loon from LPC’s Loon Cam 1 seemed to have gotten into a territorial fight at another lake. He was taken to Avian Haven Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center for treatment and rehabilitation. The newsletter said, “Since he was eating voraciously, swimming and diving well, and blood tests and other diagnostic tests indicated that he was healthy, the loon was released onto the ocean in order to give him a head start on migration. In the time since his rescue, the loon’s chicks have continued to thrive on their lake. At 12 weeks of age, they are capable of providing their own food, though they continue to be cared for by their mom.”

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.



Ellenor Downer



5 years ago (Oct. 1, 2015)

Twenty-one years ago a group of about 12 arts and crafts people got together and began showing their art at the Hardwick Town Hall, which eventually turned into the Backroads Studio Tour. “Word spread from artist to artist and every year there is an interesting mix because some artists pass on or move on, and there’s always something new and different,” said Ruth Lyon, whose husband’s blacksmith shop in West Brookfield is one of the stops. Only one of the 13 artists this year is one of the original artists that started the group 21 years ago, and that is Elisabeth Hyder, who owns Brookfield Paperworks in North Brookfield.

Where did 100 years go? If the founding members of the Barre Woman’s Club were with us today they would wonder. In hindsight the distant past sometimes feels like yesterday, but it was 100 years ago that the first meeting of the Barre Woman’s Club took place. Would those founding members recognize what they had started that afternoon in February of 1916; the club’s evolution or the world as it is today? In 1916 women did not have the right to vote. That did not happen until 1920. Today, Barre is represented in our State Legislature by Senator Anne Gobi, a Barre Woman’s Club member. Two other Barre Woman’s Club members have been elected to the Barre Board of Selectmen, Ruth Trifilo and Kathleen Inman.

Selectmen met with Bob Legare, assistant building inspector, regarding roof damage to town buildings in Petersham. Hailstorms back on Aug. 4 produced hailstones as large as 1.75 inches that hit the area. The town hall was the only town building that escaped damage.

10 years ago (Oct. 7, 2010)

Quabbin’s hard-fought and crucial win over home standing South in boys’ soccer Saturday revived its hopes for Districts. With the team headed into the second half of the season, the Panthers are almost in a must-win situation. Nick Hoffman scored a pair of goals and Lee Crowder added another in the 3-0 victory over the Colonels. The team’s leading scorer, Hoffman now has six on the season. The Panthers snapped a four-game losing streak. “It was a big win for us,” said coach Tom Gareau. Quabbin (3-4-2) was boosted again by the play of Hoffman, Jordan Lux, Ryan Wine and goalie Cory Griegas. The goalkeeper made a spectacular save with the score tied, halting the penalty shot and keeping the Panthers in it.

A unison reading led by Deacon Paul Mello, opened the interfaith

In Past Pages

LOOK BACK Merry Old England Faire - 1995



Turley Publications File Photo

Carmen and Bill Gelinas dressed as members of the Royal family at the Merry Old England Faire on the Barre Common. Everything reminded attendees of England, even the drizzly weather.

Blessing of the Animals service on the Petersham town common. Worship leaders were Pastor Debra Arnold, Orthodox Congregational Church, UCC, Deacon Paul Mello, St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church and Rev. M. Lara Hoke, pastor of First Congregational Parish, Unitarian. The most remarkable animal present this year was “Spin,” a sheep owned by Debra and Alan Bachrach, who, due to a birth defect, uses a custom-made wheel cart to allow him mobility.

Nineteen Boy Scouts and parents from Boy Scout Troop 12 Hubbardston spent part of Labor Day weekend camping along the Swift River in Belchertown. The trip began with a paddle upstream from the boat ramp on Cold Spring Road. Eventually the group, in several canoes and kayaks, arrived at the Herman Covey Wildlife Management Area. The troop had been given permission by the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game to camp along the river on state land.

25 years ago (Oct. 5, 1995)

Amherst Regional High School announced that the 1995-96 Robert Frost Teaching Chair was awarded to Carol Staiti, health education specialist. Carol is a resident of Barre, and has worked in the Amherst school system for 15 years as a health educator and coordinator for the system. She is the daughter of Lyle and Phyllis

Anderson of School Street, Barre.

Irene Scott Bergman, daughter of Fay Vining of Broad Street, has been appointed to Corporate Sales Manager at the Tatnuck Bookseller Marketplace in Worcester. She is a graduate of Quabbin Regional High School.

A well-known local band has just completed a whirlwind trip to Germany, and has found that music is indeed an international language. Rick and Joyce Green and their band “The Housejacks” played for an audience, which may not have heard down-home country rock before. Still they found that the themes of love and loss, and longing for home, so much a part of country music, are common to all languages and cultures. The Housejacks band got its name from the months and years the Greens spent restoring their 1802 colonial on Old Westminster Road in Hubbardston, quite literally from the ground up.

38 years ago (Oct. 6, 1982)

Mr. and Mrs. Merton Converse (Isabel Shepardson) have returned to their home in Tucson, Ariz., after spending several days this past week visiting with relatives and

Friends in Barre and Hardwick. Mrs. Converse’s mother, Mrs. Mildred Shepardson, is living in Hardwick.

See PAST PAGES, page 8

Column

The Garden Lady takes on fall questions

A gardener from Ware is curious about the difference between dried and fresh herbs. “I grew and dried numerous herbs this summer and have begun to use them in recipes. Why do you need less of an herb if it is in dried form? It would seem to be reverse!”

Fresh herbs, by weight, contain a great deal of water. Once dried, the essential oils, which is what gives the herb its flavor, become concentrated. Because of that, most recipes will call for only one-third to one-half of a dried herb if it is being substituted for a fresh herb in a recipe. To dry herbs from your garden, simply harvest a few stems, secure them with a rubber band and hang them upside-down in a dark, well-ventilated area.

A reader in Belchertown wrote in with this question: “I was surprised to find a small peach tree growing out of my lazy-man’s compost pile. I am sure it is a peach because part of the pit is still attached. Can you tell me if this was just a fluke, or can peaches be started from seed that easily?”

Peach pits will often grow into peach trees without much work on our part. Simply plant a moistened pit two to three inches deep in the soil and wait until spring, that’s when germination will likely occur. The variety you get may or may not be as great-tasting or as large as its parentage but it makes for a fun experiment nevertheless. Trees that grew from pits in our compost pile over a decade ago are still supplying my Mom with teenie but tasty peaches. Last fall I purposely planted some pits from some awesome-tasting peaches and luckily, one sprouted. Sometimes they take more than a year to germinate; maybe I’ll be surprised with a few more next spring.

This question was posed by Marie who reads the column from South Hadley: “I heard once that you can store pots of geraniums and begonias in the basement over the winter. Basically you just cut them back and ignore them, then come spring begin watering them again. Is this true? I’d love to be able to save my plants for use next season, but don’t have the window space upstairs to do so.”

Sure, here is how it’s done: Before you put your plants in storage allow the soil in the pot to dry somewhat. Then, cut the plants back to a couple of inches above the crown and set them in their winter home. Besides the cellar, unheated rooms, enclosed porches or other spaces that don’t freeze and aren’t too damp work well. Check them every few weeks and water sparingly if necessary, never letting the soil dry out completely. When spring comes, gradually begin to introduce sunlight. Once the threat of frost has passed the plants can go outside for the summer months. If last year’s potting soil is “exhausted” of nutrients, carefully repot the plant into new soil. Prune away any weak branches and give it some liquid fertilizer. For a bit of work you might be able to reuse your plants and spare your wallet! Besides geraniums and begonias, the method of overwintering can work with fuchsias, coleus, New Guinea impatiens and some of the new Proven Winner and Proven Selection plants. Good luck!!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

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Guest column

Adventures of Gertrude the Cat

By Ruth Robinson

Dear Folks,
Missy has been working on another rag rug this morning and adding another row to it. As she was crocheting, the rag rug ball fell to the floor of the dining room with me right after it. It sure bats around well, but Missy shooped me away and picked up the ball.

Darn, what to do next? She has been cleaning out closets lately and there is a box on the floor with stuff in it, but it is the little bottles that interest me. They batted good and smelled nice. I think humans call it perfume. Oh dear, one of the bottles seems to have spilled over and some liquid is coming out. I guess I better get away from here promptly.

Missy will smell the perfume when she comes in and I will be in big trouble. I am glad I didn’t get any on my nice clean fur. Ugh, that would be awful.

At least the odor is good and not like when the skunks spray their stuff outside. Whew, that smell is terrible. When Missy’s pet dog got sprayed last fall, she had to wash the dog in tomato juice and the house smelled bad for a few hours.

So, I’ll just recoup my bamboo piece under the bed and bat it around for a while. I was able to slide it into the bathroom behind the shower curtain. Darn, it caught on the seam of the curtain and after a few bats and tugs it came loose. I guess I better return it to its hiding place and take a nap somewhere.

Oh yes, Missy is changing sheets on the bed today so I can climb right on top of the blankets piled up on the floor in the corner. Yea, I can play King of the Hill until Missy comes to make up the bed for tonight. Take care folks. Wear your masks and wash those hands.

Love,
Gertrude



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Have Something to Share?
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North Brookfield

North Brookfield Cultural Council seeks grant proposals

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Proposals will be open for consideration beginning Thursday, Oct. 1 for community-oriented arts, humanities and science programs. The North Brookfield Cultural Council set Monday, Nov. 16 as the deadline for organizations, schools and individuals to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community.

According to NBCC chair Laura Dusty, these grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in North Brookfield,

including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies or performances in schools, workshops, and lectures.

Last year the North Brookfield Cultural Council distributed \$5,700 in grants. Some previously funded projects include Theatre Guild of North Brookfield, Family Fun Day by Friends of NB Playground, Friends of NB Town House media presentation, St. Joseph's Family Fair, Sundays at Wendemuth Meadow, Ed the Wizard, the Ukulele Workshop

and more. The council looks forward to considering and choosing this year's worthy proposals.

The NB Cultural Council's webpage at www.mass-culture.org/North-Brookfield outlines the following priorities: "The North Brookfield Cultural Council prioritizes those proposals that have the greatest impact on the community. We prioritize proposals that serve specific audiences as well as those that work to bring together diverse groups. School programs, senior programs, library programs and

local organizations are priorities and should demonstrate the backing of the appropriate authorities. In order to maximize the funds, the council may partially fund a proposal." For more details and funding guidelines, people may visit the webpage.

This year applicants must apply electronically online at www.mass-culture.org/North-Brookfield. If they do not have a computer, they may visit the Haston Free Public Library or a local library for assistance or

email Laura Dusty at dustyl@lpsma.net if they need to make other arrangements. The deadline for submitting applications is Monday, Nov. 16.

The North Brookfield Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities

every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

For specific guidelines and complete information on the North Brookfield Cultural Council, visit www.mass-culture.org/North-Brookfield. Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at www.mass-culture.org/lcc_public.asp.

NBSB takes first place in Community Contribution for Central Mass

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield Savings Bank's roots run deep in its local communities and they have always held strong to the importance of being a source of support for their neighborhoods. In fact, "Community Support" is one of their five core values established by the bank. That is why North Brookfield Savings Bank was pleased to be notified that the local, community-focused bank had been recognized as the #1 leader in Community Contribution for Central Massachusetts at the annual Banking Choice Awards.

The Banking Choice Awards are presented annually by American Business Media, publishers of "Banking New England" and Rivel Banking Benchmarks. The Banking Choice Awards are based upon the results of the Rivel Banking Benchmarks, the largest and most comprehensive measure of banking customer experience in the world. The benchmarks are conducted independent of any financial institution biannually by Rivel, a pioneer in the online measurement and tracking of customer experience for banking institutions.

To track and measure customer experience, 281 financial institution's customers were surveyed across the state of Massachusetts; conducting 11,099 interviews, and generated 313,842 reviews. This

data was used to determine how customers rate their bank, and how those ratings compare to direct competition.

"All of us at North Brookfield Savings Bank are proud of this accomplishment of being recognized as the #1 bank in Central Massachusetts for Community Contribution. As a local neighborhood bank that is committed to supporting our communities and living our core values every day, this is truly a great honor," said North Brookfield Savings Bank President and CEO Donna Boulanger.

North Brookfield Savings Bank consistently shows their dedication to supporting their communities through donations, volunteerism, and educational opportunities. A small selection of recent contributions from the Bank are a recent Homebuyers Night Webinar, food pantry donations, \$10,000 worth of scholarships for local high school seniors and a financial literacy presentation aimed at protecting older community members from fraud, scams, and identity theft.

Recently the bank released their 2019 Annual Report which was fittingly themed "Neighbors helping Neighbors," displaying the various ways the Bank gives back to local communities through charitable giving and outreach efforts, as well

as support of their local business communities.

"In addition to the Bank's monetary contributions made, we have a fantastic group of employees who are committed and enthusiastic about providing our neighborhoods with community support," said Andrea Healy, Chief Administrative and Human Resources Officer. "We are continually impressed by their generosity and caring nature when it comes to giving back. Many of our employees sit on committees and serve as board members of organizations and non-profits in order to support their operations. Our employees are the heart and soul of the Bank and their commitment is what makes these accomplishments possible."

It is through these efforts and many more that North Brookfield Savings Bank and its employees upholds and embodies their core values of Supporting our Communities, Embracing Teamwork, Committing to Excellence, Acting with Integrity, and Sharing Kindness.

To learn more about North Brookfield Savings Bank's community giving efforts and all of the convenient banking products and services offered, people may visit www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.

Cheryl Orne promoted to deposit operations manager at NBSB

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Savings Bank (NBSB) announces the recent promotion of Cheryl Orne to deposit operations manager of the bank's operations department.

"We are happy to have Cheryl grow with North Brookfield Savings Bank with this well-deserved promotion," said North Brookfield Savings Bank senior vice president Patty Ostrout. "Her on going dedication to providing our customers with the best service and digital banking options, along with her extensive banking knowledge and her support of her coworkers, make her the perfect fit for this position managing the operations department. We know she will continue to contribute to the overall success of the bank."

Cheryl Orne of North Brookfield will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day functions of the Operations Department and managing the operations team. She will be responsible for the continued smooth operation of the deposit and electronic banking services to ensure ease-of-use and complete customer satisfaction. This includes valuable and vital services such as NBSB's Online Banking, Mobile Banking app and ATM/Debit card services,



Cheryl Orne

among others. She will use research and innovation to keep North Brookfield Savings Bank at the forefront of digital technology, allowing customers access to competitive digital financial services. Orne will work closely with the senior vice president of retail banking and retail staff to create efficiencies between the departments.

Orne most recently served North Brookfield Savings Bank as branch operations manager where she was responsible for managing internal reporting tools, managing the bank's supply warehousing system, maintaining, updating and implementing procedures and forms, providing training for retail

staff, among other duties.

Orne is a seasoned banker with more than 16 years of professional community banking experience within multiple departments and positions. She takes great pride in working for a local, community bank that focuses on the importance of customer care and community support.

"I am very happy for this recognition and look forward to utilizing my previous experience working in both back-end operations and front-facing retail banking support to provide our customers with the very best banking experience," said deposit operations manager Cheryl Orne. "I am committed to keeping North Brookfield Savings Bank competitive, to give our customers access to the latest cutting edge digital banking services and features."

People may reach Cheryl Orne to discuss North Brookfield Savings Bank deposit accounts or their consumer lending needs at 508-637-740 or email orne@BankNBSB.com. NMLS ID# 1854125.

North Brookfield Savings Bank is a mutual savings bank with full-service branches in North Brookfield, East Brookfield, West Brookfield, Ware, Belchertown, Palmer and Three Rivers Village of Palmer.

BARRE.
continued from page 9

per ton, bituminous concrete and millings.

Town administrator's goals

Town administrator Jessica Sizer presented selectmen with a list of her goals. They included five categories: 1. community relations, 2. relationship with select board and other levels, 3. human resources and labor relations, 4. financial and

capital planning and 5 community and economic development. Under community relations she planned to attend on off hours business and organization events. In the second category, relationship with select board and other levels, she would provide written monthly reports to the board and met with neighboring town administrators, the school and CMRPC. In the third category she said she would review and revise human resources and met in small

groups with employees. She said she would meet with the finance committee and work with the treasurer and accountant to get the town bond rating back. She also said a new fire station should be part of the capital plan. Finally, she planned to create and maintain a vacant property inventory, clean up the town tax title list and have relationships with area Chambers of Commerce.

Other business

Selectmen approved a request by

the Christmas in Barre Committee to use the section of South Common not used by the farmers' market for Saturday, Oct. 24 to hold a craft fair with a rain date is Sunday, Oct. 25. They also waived the fee. Christmas in Barre will not be holding the craft fair in the town hall in December due to COVID-19.

Selectman chair Gregory O'Sullivan said he would like to see the town clerk move to the first floor of the Henry Woods Building. He

said the town clerk's major concern was access to town records in the vault. He said a vault or safe on the first level could contain records the town clerk used regularly and the basement vault house the archives. He said records could be scanned electronically.

The town administrator said the town had two active COVID-19 cases for a total of 65 cases since March 10.

Selectman

Urban discussed the gate at Flaherty Road and possible dumping on property there. He said the town needed to know if it owned the fenced off section of road or was it discontinued. He suggested reaching out to the board of health, building commission, Department of Public Works, conservation commission and town counsel.

THE DONNA WARFIELD TEAM



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Hardwick

Select board hears from school superintendent

HARDWICK — The Hardwick Board of Selectmen met this past Monday, Sept. 28 via Zoom, opening the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The only item on the agenda was a discussion with Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir in regards to the schools reopening and CARES Act funding.

Dr. Muir thanked the select board for supporting the school district’s assessment, in addition to recognizing the efforts of the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department and the Hardwick Board of Health in ensuring the safety of staff and students. Dr. Muir said she was trying to attend all district town’s select board meetings to update people about how the school reopening has worked. Dr. Muir shared a slide presentation highlighting the

reopening of the schools and the district’s learning models.

The district wanted to meet three goals for this school year: keeping everyone safe, providing in-person learning for as many as possible, and remote learning for those that could not return. In order to achieve this, they had to redistribute classes across the district. One of the biggest moves was shifting all sixth grade students up to the middle school, as well as moving the preschools. By doing so, the school district was able to provide in-person learning for all kindergarten through fifth grade students, and hybrid learning for all middle and high school students. Dr. Muir stated that 20% of the students in the district are remote learners. She said there is a teacher for each grade level for remote learning, and each grade is a blend

of all district towns.

Dr. Muir said that the typical in-person class size of 24 students, is now distributed into two separate classrooms. They are using a paired staffing model featuring a teacher and a paraprofessional or tutor. The school district was able to utilize most of their existing staff and did not have to hire too many new staff in order for this model to work. Some of the schools, like Hardwick Elementary School, are using their SMART boards to connect the two classrooms, and foster a sense of community for the students.

Dr. Muir also credited the district’s plant and facilities team for keeping the schools cleaned and sanitized three times a day. They also had the significant task of shuttling furniture and equipment between schools over the summer.

Food services has seen a significant change, as all meals are now prepared and prepackaged instead of being served in line. Students also need to pre-order their lunches.

Dr. Muir updated the board about the remote learning center that was proposed at the New Braintree Grade School. She said initially there was a lot of interest, but now it has declined significantly. They are unsure if there is a need to support the learning center at this time.

Select board member Julie Quink asked Dr. Muir how the staff and students were handling wearing masks for long periods of time. Dr. Muir said she has not heard of any issues, and that both staff and students take frequent mask breaks, usually outside where they can also be physically active. The students are also hand washing and sanitiz-

ing frequently and using assigned seating for contact tracing purposes.

The school district was able to provide technology for all middle and high school students, but they are currently unable to provide for all elementary students. There is a significant need for technology and they are hoping to have that in November. Dr. Muir said she was very proud that their remote learning teachers were using their own curriculum via Google Classroom. She said remote learning has been the biggest challenge. Select board member Kelly Kemp said she has heard a lot of positive feedback about the school district’s reopening. Dr. Muir said that they have things they are working on, but it is going well overall. “It’s hard to have one model that fits everyone’s personal circumstance,” Dr. Muir

said.

Dr. Muir also approached the select board about the town’s CARES Act allocation, stating she understood the challenges the towns are facing financially, but if there were funds available, to consider the school district’s needs. Select board chairman Kenan Young asked Town Administrator Theresa Cofske what the status was with the town of Hardwick’s CARES Act funding. Cofske said they were doing really well with it right now. Young asked Dr. Muir to approach them at a later time and see how things are going in regards to the funding, in case there is a resurgence of COVID-19 cases and that money is needed. Dr. Muir thanked the board for their time and for allowing her to speak.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Second Chance offers refuge to cats from Delaware animal rescue intake

EAST BROOKFIELD – Twenty-nine cats from what may be Delaware’s largest ever animal rescue intake have found refuge at Second Chance Animal Services. Second Chance is grateful to volunteers from the Central Massachusetts Disaster Animal Response Team for their help in transporting the cats to the Second Chance Almost Home transport facility in North Brookfield last week. The cats completed their state mandated quarantine and are receiving all necessary medical care so they can be cleared for adoption.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato said “many of the cats are in need of dental care, need on-going treatment for skin conditions and body sores or are underweight. Some cats have already been cleared for adoption by our veterinarians, but the majority will be available for foster to adopt. They have already been through so much and we think they will do best recovering with loving new families.”

The Brandywine Valley

SPCA took in 182 cats and one dog, which were seized by the Delaware Office of Animal Welfare in a suspected animal cruelty case in Camden, Delaware recently. The OAW had received a tip from the public about cats living in deplorable conditions. Due to the ongoing investigation, Blancato could not comment further on the suspected animal cruelty case.

Blancato expressed her gratitude to the CMDART volunteers who helped transport the cats to Massachusetts. “We’re also grateful for the support of our generous Second Chance donors, who make rescues like this possible.” Those interested in helping to care for these cats and to make future rescues possible can make a donation at www.secondchanceanimals.org, on the Second Chance Animal Services Facebook page or by mail to 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515. Interested adopters can see all the available pets on the organization’s website.

NEW BRAINTREE. continued from page 1

re-opening of the schools. The letter from the New Braintree Select Board said the board was not happy with nor did it approve of the proposed re-opening of the schools. The re-opening proposal would move all teachers and students out of the New Braintree Grade School to Oakham Center School. This plan would in turn leave the New Braintree Grade School empty.

Muir said the reason she did not say anything to the select board at her last visit Monday, July 27 was due to the fact that the school committee meeting. She said she felt it was only right and fair to share her plan with the school committee

first, as it was the governing body of the school.

Chair Walker asked Dr. Muir what her exact plan was with the children of New Braintree Grade School. She said the plan was to take the kindergarten and first grade students and move them to the Oakham Center School, which had plenty of room to accommodate them.

Chenevert said he didn’t understand why the district would take the children out of the newest school in the district with lots of space, where they could be very safely socially distanced and move them into a school with more children, and leave the New Braintree school empty. Muir said the reason for this move is the district cannot

afford to have the students, teachers and nurses in the NBES with all of the new protocols that are being required by the state due to COVID-19; it is just simply not in her budget.

Walker said the board’s main concern was that between the school and the town there has been some trust issues in the past and the board felt as though once the children left the school they would never be returned and the school would remain empty.

The superintendent said according to the Regional Agreement students must be in the school until 2023. She said she has every intention of returning all students back to their original schools as soon as this “crisis” is over. Muir said she

has no intention of keeping these students where she is moving them and the only reason for this move is due to the “crisis.” The superintendent said she felt as though this was the best decision for the health and safety of the children. Muir said she understands that the town of New Braintree has had some issues in the past with trust when it comes to the school and she is trying to rebuild that trust. Walker said the board has asked the school on numerous occasions to be contacted by the school if anything pertains to New Braintree; said it has never been done. Muir said she will try to work on that and make sure that the New Braintree Select Board are kept in the loop moving forward.

HUBBARDSTON. continued from page 1

one million in money saved during the COVID-19 shutdown to lower assessments to the five-member towns.

Articles 3 and 4 passed unanimously. Article 3 transferred \$15,000 from free cash to capital stabilization fund and article 4 transferred from free cash \$231,800 from free cash to capital expenses.

Voters said yes to an amendment regarding the appointment of the planning board, associate member in article 5. The amendment changed the section titled

“Other Officers to be Appointed by the Board of Selectmen” to “Officers to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen from among the residents of the Town.” Resident Mary Robinson asked town counsel for a definition of resident of town. Town Counsel said a resident declares Hubbardston as legal residence where registered to vote.

The final article granted an easement to the Rutland Regional Emergency Communication Center on town owned land located at 21 Gardner Road, as shown as Assessors Map 5C, Lot 134A and described in a deed recorded

with the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 54791, Page 67 for a radio communication tower.

A Cross Road resident said a 160 foot tower would dominate the landscape and was equal to the height of a 16 story building. He said a 30-day window would permit more residents to view the tower plan. Selectman chair Dan Galante said the tower was planned for at least five years and he would eliminate communication issues for public safety and cell coverage. Rutland Regional Emergency Communication Center received a grant for the tower to improve public safety communication.

Voters approved article 6 with two opposed.

Before adjourning the meeting, own counsel pointed out a correction to article 4 and sought a motion to reconsider the article. She said the town approved two years ago \$15,000 for a fire exhaust mitigation system for the fire stations. The bid came in higher than the appropriation at \$30,000. The town has to rebid. She said the mitigation system amount should be changed to \$30,000 rather than the \$15,000 printed in the advisory for a total of \$231,800 in capital expenses. Voters unanimously passed the motion to amend.



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Veterans outreach center host speakers series

Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center will host its second annual Jesse H. Stallings, Jr. Memorial Speakers Series Thursday, Oct. 22 from 6-7:30 p.m. This is a free, online virtual event.

This year's speaker will be Sergeant Dakota Meyer, United States Marine Corps Veteran, Medal of Honor recipient and New York Times best-selling author of "Into the Fire: A Firsthand Account of the Most Extraordinary Battle in the Afghan War."

Meyers' topic is titled, "Accountability and Achievement," where he will talk about taking advantages of the opportunities life presents, holding one another accountable to achieve our potential, striving constantly for the best

possible outcome, and creating a support network. In this moving and motivational talk, his stories are full of detail and imagery. From growing up in a small town in Kentucky to joining the Marines, Meyer elaborates on courage, leadership and what happened that day in Ganjigal Valley, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor. He believes that anyone can achieve greatness and he inspires his audience to do their best.

"We are honored and excited to have Sergeant Meyer joining us this year. He is a true American hero-and we look forward to his presentation that will, undoubtedly, leave a positive impression on everyone that participates. His story

of leadership and valor under fire is one of survival and heroism that will resonate with all," says Charles Murphy, MVOC executive director and USMC Veteran.

The Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center serves those who have served by supporting military veterans and their families in need of assistance to develop a resilient, self-sufficient lifestyle essential to succeed in today's environment. Sponsorship opportunities for this event are still available, people may contact CMurphy@veterans-outreach.org.

For additional information about the Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center or to make a donation, people may visit www.veterans-outreach.org/.

FOOD PANTRY. continued from page 1

some kind and hope that everyone will still hear the smiles in their voices.

While the pantry typically has had an "all hands on deck" approach to welcoming volunteers, in September they will once again be

working with just a very small crew. They are preparing for the distribution by only working in shifts at the pantry, in small household/family groups. Please do not arrive to volunteer on Oct. 14 or 15 without first contacting Sonja Blaney, coordinator of volunteers, at 978-355-6921 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

The pantry sincerely appreciates all

the volunteers who have stayed home. Because conditions have been changing rapidly, please continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry website at <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from Petersham. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, Oct. 4. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week's edition. Dick Clark, Stephen Craven, Barbara Laborde and Raul Laborde correctly identified the photo. Last week's photo was the handicapped ramp at the Oakham Congregational Church in Oakham.

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Town Hall Restoration Committee seeks donations for stage lighting



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

The Orange Town Hall has a restored curtain, but it lacks stage lighting and a sound system.

ORANGE – The Ruth B Smith Auditorium in Orange has been spruced up, the stage was dedicated to Ginny Porcari and the 1912 Minuteman Curtain has been restored, but with no stage lighting, and no sound system, performers have to provide their own temporary lighting, or perform in front of the stage. The Town Hall Restoration Committee is working to solicit donations to install basic stage lighting. Donations may be made through townoforange.org , then clicking on epayments then Town Hall Restoration and write Stage Lighting in the memo, or by sending a check to Town of Orange, 6 Prospect St., Orange, MA 01364.

OAKHAM.
continued from page 3

and the Annex may call Linda Housman, curator, at 508-882-3990 or 508-335-4633 to schedule an appointment. The museum and annex, located at 1221 Old Turnpike Road, are free and suitable for all. The Oakham Historical Association reminds visitors that face coverings are required and sanitizing lotion is available.

Church services
Sunday, Oct. 4 the Oakham Congregational Church will hold its 10 a.m. worship service. It is Family Sunday and Communion.

No Sunday School will be held. It will be held outside on the common. Sunday School will also be held. People should bring their own chair and wear a mask. If it rains, services will be inside the church. People will be directed to an entrance and will practice social distancing in the sanctuary.

PAST PAGES,
continued from page 3

Mrs. Annie Harty of Phillipston Road recently enjoyed a motor trip of over 900 miles to visit the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn. She traveled with her sister, Mrs. Harriet Levasseur of Holden, her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Roberta Harty of Athol and granddaughter, Kathy Harty of Templeton.

Dorothy Kangas of Pitcherville Road has returned home after a visit with her son, Captain Larry Kangas in Seattle, Washington, for three weeks. While there she went on a 10-day sailboat cruise around San Juan and was shipwrecked the first day out. After a harrowing experience the cruise continued. Her son, Larry, also went on the cruise.

The CDC estimates that, on average, alcohol is a factor in the deaths of 4,358 young people under 21 each year. You can do a lot to help yourself and others by encouraging your peers to make healthy choices and by NEVER supplying alcohol or drugs for others.

Teenagers look up to adults,

{ be worthy of that admiration and **keep alcohol away from underage teens!** }



Eight basic tips to help you get the conversation started:
www.QHSUA.org/parent-prevention/

Teens whose caring adults talk to them often about substance use are less likely to use drugs or drink alcohol. Please remember, there is help!

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www.QHSUA.org

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Soccer is back



Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



The Quabbin Regional High School girls soccer team works out on Monday afternoon on one of the rear fields at spacious Quabbin High. The Panthers teams have plenty of space to maintain distancing in all sports thanks to 40 acres of fields around the school building.

Help feature your student-athletes

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The fall season is starting and Turley Publications is looking forward to getting back out on the field to bring you the high school action for all your favorite teams.

We know this fall season is important to many senior athletes, who watched Class of 2020 lose their entire spring season.

We're asking for help on this upcoming season in order to bring the best coverage we can possibly manage and fill our pages with names and color.

We know that fans will be limited to the home crowds, but that is where you all come in.

We have a limited number of staff to start the school year due to the pandemic, and while we strive to get to as many games as possible, we cannot get to everywhere.

If you are a parent, coach, or even player, and you have information or photographs to share, we definitely want to hear from you.

If you don't see one of our photographers at a game, please feel free to send your own action photos of games in order to bolster our coverage. If you are interested in regularly submitted photos, please do contact us.

Otherwise, we would love to hear from anyone who reports scores, details, and any milestones that occur during this unprecedented season. Please be sure the information you provide us is accurate and check with coaches, if necessary, before submitting.

We also encourage all coaches to submit their results and details as much as possible. Send any and all information and photos for inclusion to sports@turley.com.

A safe distance



Photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

The Quabbin Regional High School boys cross country team practices on Monday afternoon. The Panthers preparing for an abbreviated season that begins next year. Runners were separated in order to maintain distancing during practice.

Field hockey returns



Quabbin field hockey observes many protocols at practices, including having bags and equipment individual to each player and spacing at all times. The Panthers, which have enjoyed great success in recent years, are eager to play their abbreviated season beginning next week.

Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Photos wanted for Panthers sports

BARRE – With the upcoming season and a limited number of games and opportunities to feature fall athletes, the Barre Gazette is in need of and is welcoming any and all photo submissions of fall sports beginning next week. If you are interested in either taking or submitting photos from Quabbin home games for use in the Barre Gazette, please contact editor Gregory A. Scibelli at sports@turley.com.

Five 2020 track champions crowned at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Aaron Fellows (Croydon, NH), Chase Curtis (Rutland, MA), Nathan Wenzel (Granby, MA), and Mike Douglas (Northfield, MA) each won championships Saturday, September 26 at Monadnock Speedway, with Fellows and Wenzel both scoring Super Saturday feature wins on the final event of the season.

NHSTRA Modified ace Brian Robie had clinched his division's 2020 crown a week earlier but, strongly in the hunt for top NASCAR Division 1 points – he entered Saturday's event tied for fourth in the national ranking – the Sunapee speedster was third in Saturday's 40-lap main event.

Swanzy, NH hot shoe Todd Patnode, the speedway's Modified champion a year ago, moved up to second in the final 2020 tally by winning his fourth feature race of the year. Hillary Renaud (Vernon, VT) & topped the Street Stocks, impressive in her second victory of the summer.

The Heartbreak of The Day trophy went to Gordon Farnum Sunday. The six-race-winning Mini



Aaron Fellows captured the late model sportsman title last Saturday.

Stock hot shoe was an early-race victim, dropping him deep in the field and six points shy of a championship.

In the Modified 40-lapper, Patnode took the lead from Rookie of The Year Solomon Brow on lap 20 and never looked back. Brian Chapin followed Patnode to the front but could advance no farther. Robie (Sunapee, NH) concluded his championship season third on the day, just ahead of Brow.

Hillary Renaud led all the way

to win her second Street Stock feature of the season Sunday. Chase Curtis, who entered the season finale two points ahead of his twin brother Jaret, got up for second on lap three and followed Renaud the rest of the way to earn the championship. Chris Buffone was third.

In the season-long battle of the talented still-live-at-home 16-year-old twins, Chase earned the 2020 Monadnock Street Stock crown six points ahead of brother Jaret.

Aaron Fellows took control



Submitted photos

Nathan Wenzel, of Granby, won the mini-stock title.

on lap five of the Late Model Sportsman feature and blasted away to his 12th win of the summer, finishing far ahead of Justin Littlewood and 14-year-old hot shoe Camdyn Curtis.

While Fellows had also won the night before to wrap up his 13th championship at Claremont, his 2020 Monadnock crown is his first title ever at the high-banked speedplant.

Nathan Wenzel won the Mini Stock championship by domi-

nating Saturday's 25-lapper for his second win of the year. When six-time winner Gordon Farnum saw his championship hopes evaporate because of someone else's bull-and-jam racing on lap three, Wenzel had a clear path to the title.

Kevin Cormier came from tenth on the starting grid to earn runner-up honors, and 2019 division champion Louie Maher Jr. was third.

See RACING, page 10

Bondsville Bowling News

By Dave Smigiel

The playoffs have begun and our first semifinal found the top seeded Roll-A-Way foursome sneaking past the fourth-seeded Night Hawks by 24 total pins in our closest match of the week. The Hawks got the upper hand in the first by posting a 507 team single while Roll-A-Way tossed 449. Dave Fennyery's 108, Cheryl Desantis' 109, Gavin Sinclair's 116 and Darryl Sinclair's 132 contributed to the big Hawks win. Kylie Josefiak's 98, Josh Lowell's 101, Mike Nicholson's 108 and Phil Clough's 114 produced the Roll-A-Way pins. In the second, Gavin's 108 and Dave's 127 couldn't match Kylie's 110, Josh's 126, Mike's 123 and Phil's 108. After two the Hawks were still hanging onto an eighteen pin lead. The Hawks fell apart in the third as Dave's 104 (339) and Darryl's 108 (329) fell short. Josh's super 131, Mike's 113 and Phil's 107 resulted in the final margin. Josh led his quartet at 358 with Mike at 344, Phil 329 and Kylie 303. The number one seeded Roll-A-Way survived to battle the winner of the other semi while the Hawks would fight for third place next week.

Our other semifinal found the number two seeded Incredibowls

taking on the "wildcard" and three seed Narutowicz. This was a blow-out as the Incredibowls had no problem winning by 115. Pete Swistak inflicted most of the damage as his team leading 345 resulted from strings of 121, 116 and 108. Billy Brunk chipped in with 329 (107 & 126), Steve Swistak 327 (109, 105, 113) and Kayla Brunk a 105 middle stanza. No one from the Narutowicz topped 300 with their best being Harry McKeon at 103 and 285. Dan Trzpit rolled a 106 third and Lee Robinson a 105 first in the losing effort. The Incredibowls will need to bring their best bowling against Roll-A-Way while the Towicz will meet up with the Night Hawks in the consolation match.

The Slow Burners put up a W by getting past the Cannonballs by 55. Scott Radisic was the lone bright spot for the victors as his 121, 114 and 112 strings (347 trifecta) did the trick. Keith Marchessault led the Cannonballers at 309 (114 and 102 strings).

Kibbe Saw Mill got past Zeke's Freaks by 58 in this matchup where 300 was out of reach. Tony Burke was Kibbe's best as his 284 included a pair of 102's. The Freaks couldn't break the century mark with Pete Ducharme their leader at 267.

The Fans of Kayce Smith downed Sandri by 69. Mike Nicholson was

dynamite for the Fans as his league leading 394 resulted from a pair of 129's and 136. He got needed help from Tom Clauson with his 108 and 120 singles (327) and Brian Rowe with his 104 opener. Rich Picotte led the gas men at 338 (125 and 118). Sean Andersen chipped in with a 129 finale while Randy Harper added a 109 finisher.

Our final match was decided by 71 pins as the Snappers dominated Fire Mountain. The shellmen set the tone in the opener as they registered 509 (Kevin Krasnecky-133, Rusty Lambert-122 and Ed Stachowicz-111). Rick Trott tried to keep it close with his 120. Rick came back with a 124 second which countered Rusty's 116. Rick finished with 105 resulting in his 349. Russ ended his evening with 103 and topped the Snappers at 341 while Kras added 104 (332) and Ed 121 (323).

All teams will be in action next week with the championship on the line for either Roll-A-Way or the Incredibowls. All other teams will bowl to increase their monetary prizes. The top three triples this week belonged to: Mike Nicholson with 394, Josh Lowell 358 and Rick Trott 349. The top three singles were rolled by: Mike with 136, Kevin Krasnecky 133 and Darryl Sinclair 132.

Big Money on the Line in ACT-Style Late Model Show at Thompson Speedway World Series

THOMPSON, Conn. – Late Model drivers in New England won't want to miss a big 50-lap feature as part of the 58th Annual World Series of Speedway Racing at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. On Saturday, October 10, some of the top competitors in ACT-style Late Models will bear down on the Thompson high-banks with more than \$17,000 in total prize money on the line.

The race pays \$2,000 to win, \$1,200 for second, and \$1,000 for third with a minimum \$300 payout to take the green flag. However, the lucrative purse throughout the field isn't the only value drivers will be chasing. For the first time in recent World Series memory, drivers will also be chasing lap money in the Late Model feature, with most laps slated for \$50 to the driver who leads that circuit.

The total value of lap money rises close to \$3,000 with \$100 from the American-Canadian Tour (ACT) to the lap-one leader and \$300 from "The Dumpster Guy" for the leader of the final lap. ACT and Pro All Star Series (PASS) officials are leasing the track for the prestigious World Series in 2020 and running operations.

John Lesnewski, a crew member on Woody Pitkat's No. 91 Hartwell Motorsports Late Model, and Brian Tagg, a long-time competitor at Thompson, collected sponsors for the lap bonuses within just a few days after an announcement was

made by Lesnewski on Facebook.

"John texted me and said he was trying to get some sponsors together and I shared it, and the two of us just went at it trying to sell them," Tagg said. "It only took us a little bit over two days to sell them all. It makes it interesting... as a driver, you're always looking for ways to make it more interesting and try to draw more interest from competitors who wouldn't normally come. The purse was already awesome, and we figured we would spice it up even more."

Outside of the lap money, two additional bonus awards have been provided. The second-place finisher will earn an extra \$100, a donation that reads: "paying it forward in honor of generosity of Cape Towing and Salvage and St reb Chiropractic." Woody Pitkat, who won the Late Model feature as part of the Thompson 150 on September 3, also has donated a \$100 bonus to the sixth-place finisher.

"What John, Brian, and their teams have done to help support the World Series is great to see," World Series co-promoter and ACT managing partner Cris Michaud said. "We think this is going to be one of the top races of the entire weekend and one that fans won't want to miss."

For Tagg, watching what Michaud and PASS owner Tom Mayberry have done to try and bring Thompson back to the top is special – and he couldn't be more thankful.

"It's hard to even describe," Tagg said. "As a

competitor, you never want see your home track go away. When you have people like Cris and Tom... they didn't have to do anything. They are three states away, but they wanted to do what they could for the local short track... it's truly amazing."

The 58th Annual World Series of Speedway Racing takes place October 9-11 with three action-packed days of racing. The schedules include 18 divisions and series with the season finale for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour. Two additional open shows – a \$2,000-to-win 350 Supermodified 30-lap race and a 75-lap, \$5,000-to-win Modified Open – will join the Late Model Open on Saturday's schedule.

Outside of the Late Models, purses for Thompson's local divisions include a \$1,500-to-win Sunoco Modified race, \$350-to-win Limited Sportsman and SK Light Modified features, and a \$200-to-win Mini Stock main event. Full purse structures for all the local divisions and open shows can be found on the Thompson, ACT, and PASS websites.

General admission tickets are just \$55 for a three-day pass and are a hot commodity since Connecticut COVID-19 regulations have the track at just 25% grandstand capacity. Tickets can be purchased by visiting <https://happsnow.com/event/Thompson-Speedway-Motorsports-Park-YHPQ/WORLD-SERIES--NO2QX>.

RACING, continued from page 9

Green Mountain Boy Kodi Sabins, the day after he'd both announced his engagement and won the 2020 championship at Claremont, dominated the Pure Stock feature. Coming from way back in row eight, Sabins took the lead from rookie Brandon Lavoie on lap15 and then drove away, taking the checkers far ahead of

Lavoie and Joey Jarvis.

Mike Douglas, seventh on the day, earned his first-ever track championship, unseating 2019 track champ Chris Davis, who finished fourth on the day and second on the season.

In the mayhem of the nightcap 62-lap Linda Zubrino Memorial Enduro, Matt Gauffin came from 48th on the starting grid and passed Leon Keniston on lap 45 to top the frantic 70-car field.

GSPSS regular Josh King was

dominant in winning a five-car, ten-lap Spectator Race.

Saturday's Championship Day event was the 15th and final program of the pandemic-shortened 2020 racing season at the high-banked quarter mile. None of the track's 2019 titlists were able to duplicate their success of last summer.

Monadnock Speedway will close out the 2020 Season hosting two Mudbogs on Sunday, October 4 and Sunday, October 18. More information can be found at

monadnockspeedway.com.

MONADNOCK SPEEDWAY SEPTEMBER 25 RESULTS:

Pure Stocks: Kodi Sabens, Brandon Lavoie, Joey Jarvis, Chris Davis, CJ Johnson, Nick Houle, Mike Douglas, Robert Shaw, Cory Lofland, Matt Lambert, Jason Leray, JD Stockwell, Doug Nelson, Steve Zebrowski, Sean Lantas, Dylan Adams, Jim Decroucy, Bruce Clark, Justin Faford, Jimmy Zellman

Mini Stocks: Nathan Wenzel,

Kevin Cormier, Louis Maher II, Tim Leblanc, Kevin McKnight, Kevin Clayton, Jeff Asselin, Jeff Heath, Todd Taylor, Jake Puchalski, William Chaffee, Ethan Marsh, Pat Houle, Gordon Farnum, Shelby Avery

Late Model Sportsman:

Aaron Fellows, Justin Littlewood, Camdyn Curtis, Cole Littlewood, Robert Hagar, Willie Kuhn, Joe Bates, Tyler Lescord, John Meany, Scott Beck, Matt Winter, Mike Heffernan, Nancy Muni Ruot,

Eric Martel, Keith Johnson, Dan Comeau

Street Stocks: Hillary Renaud, Chase Curtis, Chris Buffone, Jaret Curtis, Mike Radzuik, Tim Wenzel, Nathan Wenzel, Richard Vincent, Robbie Streeter, Ed Brehio III

NHSTRA Modifieds: Todd Patnode, Brian Chapin, Brian Robie, Solomon Brow, Cory Plummer, Joel Monahan, Brad Zahensky, Kevin Pittsinger, Jerry Gomarlo, Eric Leclair, Kim Rivet, Trevor Bleau



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Education

Oakham New Braintree PTO plans fundraiser

OAKHAM/NEW BRAINTREE – The Oakham New Braintree PTO will hold a fundraiser at Bemis Farms Nursery, 29 North Brookfield Road, Spencer, Oct. 3 and 4, Oct. 10, 11 and 12, Oct. 19 and 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Families will make a scarecrow, play games in the pumpkin path, get one sugar pumpkin and one garden mum for \$20 per family. Due to state COVID-19 restrictions, pre-registration is required

this year and participants should choose a date and time. Bemis Farms need to spread the crowd out so they do not exceed current allowable occupancy limits. If there are openings, they will accept walk-ins for \$30 per scarecrow. The pumpkin path has pumpkin bowling, corn hole, bushel basket bean bag toss, witches hat hula hoop toss and more. People should register at Bemis. biz.

MOC offers parent café coping series Oct. 13

Making Opportunity Count (MOC) Family Resource Center will offer parent cafés, a safe space for caregivers to connect, share and learn from each other. The Coping with Remote Learning café will be a virtual space for caregivers to talk about the stress of remote learning.

MOC will also share tips and tricks on how to make remote learning better for everyone at home.

Coping with Remote Learning will be held Tuesday, Oct. 13 from 6-7 p.m. via Zoom. Attendees must

register in advance for this meeting at: https://zoom.us/join/register/tJApd-mgrzwpGtNLz-T5w1X6BspFvD_GHr10y

Other workshops in the series include: Coping with Department of Children and Families Wednesday, Nov. 11 and Coping with the Holidays Tuesday, Dec. 8. The MOC Fitchburg Family Resource Center is a program of Making Opportunity Count. FRC programs are supported by funding from the MA Department of Children and Families.

Fitchburg State graduates third recruit officer class

FITCHBURG –Twenty new police officers took the oath of honor at Fitchburg State University’s third recruit officer course graduation exercises on Friday, Sept. 11.

Fitchburg State’s groundbreaking police program, believed to be the first of its kind in the nation, graduates officers in five years with bachelor’s and master’s degrees and certification to serve as municipal police departments in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The third ROC graduates completed their bachelor’s degrees in May and this summer completed an arduous, 15-week academy including defensive tactics, firearms qualification and emergency vehicle operations. Now they begin their online master’s degree program.

University President Richard S. Lapidus noted most of the graduates already have jobs with area police departments. “This speaks highly of the character and the quality of the students in this program,” he said. “The university is proud of this program and its graduates.”

Municipal Police Training Committee Interim Executive Director Robert J. Ferullo congratulated the new officers on entering a meaningful profession, and encouraged them to be safe and to embrace the changes in their field.

“We need to protect our integrity,” Ferullo said. “Don’t ever tarnish the badge.”

Academy Director Lisa Lane saluted the graduates for their ability to thrive during unique challenges.

“The police academy is a grueling course of training which demands a full physical and mental effort by all who go through it,” she said. “It



Turley Publications Submitted Photo

Twenty recruit officer course graduates participated in graduation exercises on Sept. 11.

is stressful, it is demanding. It is not easy under normal circumstances, and these were far from normal circumstances.”

Between the COVID-19 pandemic and national tumult surrounding the police profession, Lane said, new police officers are entering the profession at a unique time.

“Always make sure that you go out there and serve with honor, integrity and pride,” Lane said. “Be a force for good. Be an agent for change. Treat everyone you encounter with dignity, equity and empathy. Be honest with yourself, be self-aware, be self-reflective, and then make any changes that you need to make to be better.”

Class Leader Grant Jensen addressed his classmates at the ceremony. “Policing right now is in a state where most people are questioning us and asking why we think

it’s still worth being a police officer,” Jensen said. “These changes to a profession that we thought we were getting into has not stopped any of us from our end goal of becoming police officers. What I’ve seen from the third ROC is that there is a passion and drive to serve the communities we are going to, that we aren’t just your normal 21- and 22-year-old new college graduates most people believe we are. Instead, we are a group of eager, passionate, and resilient men and women who want to make a difference within our communities we are going to serve. That none of us here are satisfied with being average and that we were always willing to listen and learn to fix our deficiencies.

“Don’t forget how hard you’ve worked to get this opportunity in your life,” Jensen continued. “The badge you wear is to help individuals

who need you the most in their time of need. Take pride in what you do and honor in who you serve.”

The members of the third recruit officer course are: Cameron Amaral of Middleboro, William Bento of Medfield, Michael Brito of Sagamore Beach, Shannon Dawson of Hudson, Joshua Folmer-LaFleur of Fitchburg, Nicholas Girard of Leominster, Grant Jensen of Fitchburg, Alyssa King of Groton, Matthew Krikorian of Groton, Sean Malone of Dedham, Allison McCann of Westminster, Kelly McCusker-Brown of Watertown, Cody Normandin of Uxbridge, Keegan O’Donnell of Danvers, David Pratt of South Hadley, Abigail Robinson of Weymouth, Courtney Soares of Dartmouth, Jared Taje of East Taunton, Benjamin Torrence of Bradford and Cody Walter of Westminster.

HCC partners to launch cannabis careers training program

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College and its new community partner, Elevate Northeast, are launching a revitalized cannabis careers training program in October for those who want to work in the industry.

The program, offered through the Cannabis Education Center, begins the weekend of Oct. 17-18 with two days of required core curriculum training over Zoom.

Each day will be broken down into two sessions from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-4 p.m. Each session will include presentations from cannabis industry experts followed by a question and answer period.

Students who complete the core training will then be eligible to register for spring 2021 classes in one of four cannabis industry career tracks: cultivation assistant, extraction technician, patient

services associate, and culinary assistant.

A previous series of cannabis industry training courses offered by HCC and the Cannabis Education Center were suspended in the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“HCC is proud to partner with Elevate for the sole purpose of helping jobseekers get the training they need to successfully enter the cannabis industry,” said Jeffrey Hayden, HCC vice president of Business and Community Services. “At the same time, we look forward to enhancing and expanding our relationships with cannabis companies in Holyoke and other communities throughout the region. Our goal is to help individuals gain employment while meeting the demand of area businesses.”

Dates for the spring career

track training sessions have not yet been announced.

Cultivation assistants provide the daily care of the crops from seed to harvest and may be involved in cracking seeds, soil mixing, potting, defoliation, watering, pest control and trimming.

Extraction technicians work in labs assisting production managers in all aspects of extraction, purging, oil manipulation, winterization, distillation, solvent recovery, and quality control.

Patient service associates work behind the counters at cannabis dispensaries, interacting with the public, answering technical questions, and providing information to registered cannabis patients, caregivers and recreational customers making purchases.

Culinary assistants are responsible for preparing cannabis or

cannabidiol-infused products using a variety of cooking, baking, and infusion techniques.

The cost of the two-day core training session is \$595.

Elevate Northeast is a Massachusetts-based, women-founded 501(c)(3) nonprofit, created to support the Northeast U.S.’s growing cannabis industry through workforce training, education and advocacy.

The Cannabis Education Center is based out of HCC’s Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development.

To register for Core Cannabis Curriculum class, people may go to hcc.edu/cannabis-core. More information on these and other upcoming classes and programs can be found on the Cannabis Education Center’s website - cannabiseducationcenter.org or by calling 413-552-2320.

COLLEGE NEWS

Lauryn Brown named to president’s list

Johnson and Lyndonville, VT – Lauryn Brown of Barre, a student at Northern Vermont University in Vermont, was named to the president’s list for the spring 2020 semester. Students who achieve a 4.00 semester average, are placed on the president’s list.

Northern Vermont University is a two-campus institution of higher education with campuses in Johnson and Lyndonville, Vermont as well as an online division that combines the best of the campuses’ nationally recognized

liberal arts and professional programs.

Ashley Mintz attending Lasell University

NEWTON — Ashley Mintz became a new student at Lasell University this fall. Mintz, a resident of Hardwick, will study fashion design and production.

More than 370 new students joined the Lasell community in September for the fall semester. New and returning students were given a choice to study in residential, commuter or fully online settings to accommodate their preferences during the pandemic.

Teachers & Parents

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Obituaries

Rita Marie (Paquette) Robinson, 92

BARRE — Rita Marie (Paquette) Robinson, 92, of Barre died peacefully at home on Sunday, September 20 surrounded by her loved ones. She was born on May 22, 1928 in Leominster and lived there for many years before moving to Barre.



as president of the Barre Historical Society for many years, as well as volunteering at the Barre Senior Center.

Her family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful care provided by her doctors at the Barre Family Health

Center and the Care Central VNA and Hospice, Inc. In lieu of flowers donations can be made in Rita's memory to the St. Jude Children's Hospital. Due to the current pandemic and restrictions on gatherings, a Celebration of Life will be held at a future time.

Rita leaves behind her devoted husband of 57 years, Gordon Robinson and their three children, Andrew Robinson and his significant other Shirley Dempsey of Oakham MA, Mark Robinson and his wife Lauren of Millbury and MaryJane Robbins and her husband David of Fairlee VT. Rita was very proud of her grandchildren, Alyssa and her husband Chris, Erin, Flynn and his partner Mark, Sydney and Evan. She also left behind is close family friend, Linda Miller.

DEATH NOTICE

Robinson (Paquette), Rita Marie
Died Sept. 20, 2020

Applications for affordable health care now available in Spanish

BOSTON – The online application for health insurance coverage through the Massachusetts Health Connector and MassHealth is now available in Spanish. The website, www.MAhealthconnector.org, now includes the full online application in Spanish, and information and tips about the Health Connector are also now available in Spanish. The application determines coverage eligibility for both Health Connector and MassHealth programs.

“We are pleased to be able offer to Spanish-speaking residents access to our online materials and our application in Spanish,” said Louis Gutierrez, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Connector. “People who are most comfortable reading Spanish can now complete an application, pick a Health Connector plan, and make an online payment using the Spanish-language webpages.”

For people who want to use the Spanish version of the website, a button on the top right corner of the website allows users to access the Spanish pages. Along with information about Health Connector coverage, the website now offers the entire application in Spanish for people seeking Health Connector or MassHealth coverage. The website also includes Health Connector plan selection and payment processes in Spanish.

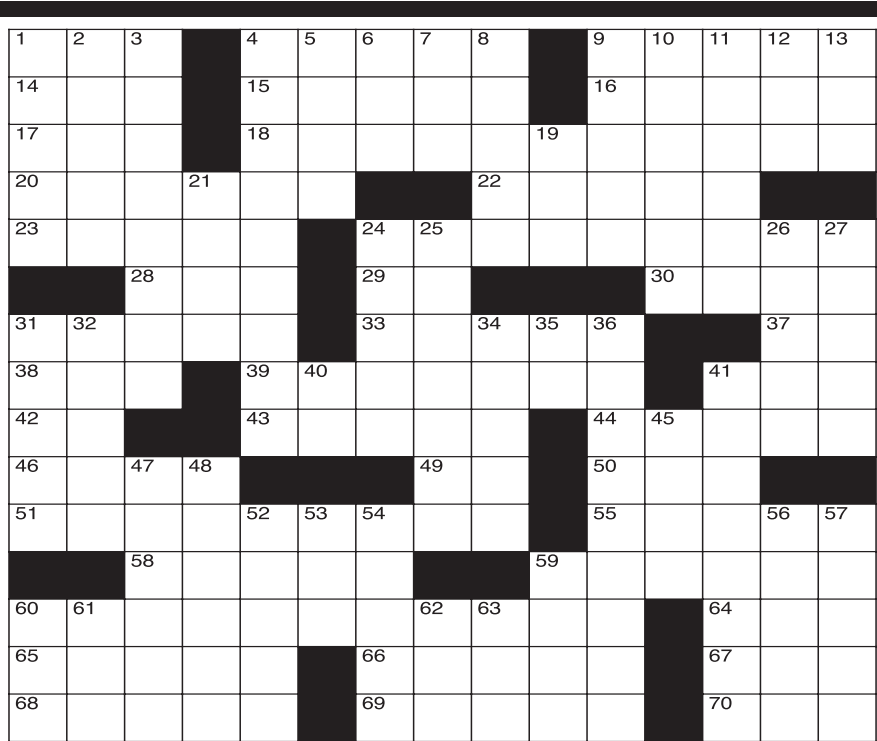
Many people who apply for Health Connector coverage are eligible for ConnectorCare coverage. ConnectorCare includes help paying for premiums, has very low co-pays, and no deductibles. This ensures that lower-in-

come residents have access to affordable health care. Additionally, a resident who lost coverage from work has 60 days to apply for Health Connector coverage if they would like insurance through the exchange. New applicants who qualify for ConnectorCare can enter coverage at any time during the year. People who qualify for MassHealth receive no-cost or low-cost coverage immediately.

For people who need help with an application or have questions about their coverage, they can find a local Navigator or Certified Application Councilor to help, and many organizations offer help in Spanish. Local assisters can be found on the Health Connector website. People with questions about MassHealth eligible or coverage can call 800-841-2900 (TTY: 800-497-4648), and can request to speak with someone in Spanish.

About the Massachusetts Health Connector

The Massachusetts Health Connector is the Commonwealth's health insurance exchange, and currently serves 325,000 individuals and small-employer members with health and dental insurance. Massachusetts residents who do not have health insurance from an employer or other entity can use the exchange to gain coverage. Through the ConnectorCare program, income-qualifying residents can access coverage that includes low-cost premiums and co-pays, and no deductibles. Access to health coverage for individuals and small businesses can be found at the Health Connector's website, MAhealthconnector.org.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Part of (abbr.)
4. Persons
9. Moved with a curving trajectory
14. Bitterly regret
15. Cause to feel embarrassed
16. Type of toast
17. Bobby ___, NHL champ
18. Analogies
20. Mixes
22. Beloved flowers
23. Clinton special prosecutor
24. Avoids
28. Innermost brain membrane: __ mater
29. Atomic #18
30. Remain as is
31. One who's been canonized
33. Indian king or prince
37. The Bay State

CLUES DOWN

38. Forms adjectives
39. Give off
41. Partner to flow
42. Biblical Sumerian city
43. Popular clothing material
44. Organism parts
46. Central US Native American people
49. Blood type
50. Wrath
51. Perennial tropical grass
55. Vetches
58. Buffaloes
59. Envelope type
60. Tuberculosis
64. Israeli city ___ Aviv
65. Pops
66. Indo-European languages
67. Fiddler crabs
68. Large bank
69. Not fresh
70. Scientist's device (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. High schoolers' dances
2. Style of rock music
3. Maryland athlete
4. Softened by soaking
5. Native Aussies
6. Some are on it
7. Clairvoyance
8. Broken piece
9. Wrong
10. Starts over
11. Where to hang clothes
12. One point north of due east
13. Gov't lawyers
19. Mass of eggs in a shellfish
21. Smile
24. Wrap
25. A citizen of Iran
26. Island off the coast of Tanzania
27. Knives
31. Beloved "Doctor"

CLUES DOWN

32. Type of turtle
34. Leg (French)
35. Indicates position
36. Self-doubt
40. Off
41. Retired but allowed to retain title
45. Algerian port
47. African country
48. "Wayward Son" rockers
52. Bring out of sleep
53. Auburn legend
54. Heavy wooden shield in ancient Greece
56. Choose to represent
57. Peace
59. Work hard
60. Reciprocal of a sine
61. Express delight
62. Explosive
63. Journalist Tarbell

Repentance Pt. 1

Scripture places tremendous emphasis upon repentance. Repentance was the oft-repeated message of both the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament servants of Christ. Moreover, it was a critical aspect to the core message of Jesus Christ Himself, as evidenced in the following excerpts:

Matthew 4:17b

17 . . . Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Mark 1:14b-15

14 . . . Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Luke 5:32

32 “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Luke 13:3b

3 “ . . . Unless you repent, you . . . will all perish.”

Thus said, what is repentance? What does it mean to repent? If we are to heed the message of Christ—and the command of God that permeates the whole of the Word—we do well to understand what repentance entails. Simply stated, repentance is defined as a “turning away from sin, disobedience and rebellion and turning to God” in faith. Thus, scriptural repentance is connected with the idea of a spiritual change in direction.

Imagine for a moment that you come to realize while driving that you are headed the wrong way on a one-way road. What would be the wisest course of action? I would recommend an immediate turnaround, as failure to do so might well prove catastrophic! It is much the same spiritually-speaking. Much of humanity is headed the wrong way in relation to the Lord and His ways (Matt. 7:13–14; Rom. 3:23). Thus, the wisest course of action is to change spiritual direction (i.e., to repent). Failure to repent will prove disastrous for time and eternity (Rom. 6:23; Matt. 25:31–46).

Are you heading the wrong way in life and living? Repent!

Are we heading the wrong way as a nation? Let us repent!

Moving along, it should be noted that biblical repentance is typically accompanied by an array of related concepts. Therefore, when we speak of repentance it is fitting to note the presence and operation of the following elements:

1) Humility

Humility in this context refers to a sense of lowliness before God, marked by penitence and submission. A repentant person will be “poor in spirit” before the Lord, fully aware of their spiritual bankruptcy apart from His divine mercy (cf. Matt. 5:3). This is a deeply spiritual response.

2) Confession

Confession pertains to the open admittance of one's waywardness before God. A repentant person will freely acknowledge the wickedness of their sinful ways. In many ways this is

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

an intellectual response, having to do with a mental awareness of your spiritual condition.

3) Remorse

Remorse has to do with the feeling of guilt for past crimes and criminality. A repentant individual will feel the burden of their sin before the Lord, sensing the degree to which they have grieved Him and brought harm to others. This is a deeply emotional response.

4) Shame

Shame has to do with the feeling of defilement for past crimes and criminality. A repentant individual will feel spiritually soiled or “unclean” due to their immorality. This, too, is a deeply emotional response (like remorse above).

5) Outflowing Change

The one who is repentant will produce fruit in keeping with repentance (Matt. 3:8). In other words, a repentant person will evidence a break from past sinfulness by a renewed commitment to Christ and works that honor Him. I am not speaking of a sinless perfection, but a marked change of lifestyle. Please do not boast of a turnaround if no evidence for it exists! Ultimately, this is the practical response of repentance.

As this publication moves to a close, I want to cite an example of repentance and the corresponding elements we have noted. Please consider this timeless and timely portion of Scripture (shared by Jesus during His earthly ministry):

Luke 18:9-14

9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

13 “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

14 “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

I would ask you to contend with the following questions:

Q. Do you see a repentant spirit in the example of the tax collector? What about the Pharisee?

Q. Who do you resemble more in this life? Do you act more like the tax collector or the Pharisee?

Q. Do you see any evidence of humility, confession, remorse, shame or change in the tax collector?

Q. Has the time come for you to follow the example of the tax collector and repent/change direction?

If so, feel free to utilize the following prayer:

Heavenly and Almighty God, I come before You humbled and

sorrowful, aware of my sin and ready to repent. Forgive me, for I have sinned before You. Empower me to walk in Your ways, as I leave my old life behind me. Lord, You who are loving and just, show compassion and have mercy on me. I pray these things in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Did you pray this prayer? If so, I would love to hear from you. New Life is here to help you live out your faith!

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us in person each Sunday at 10:30am (COVID-19 protocols are presented on the aforementioned website). We hope to see you soon!

Pastor James Foley

New Life Assembly of God
South Barre

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

“Outcasts and the Kingdom of Heaven”

Scripture Reading:
Matthew 21 v 23 - 32

I. Introduction:

Those of us who grew up with siblings, can probably relate to the story Jesus is telling here in the parable of the two sons, right? You know by now I come from a big family, and I can relate to this story. Being asked to do something by a parent, or adult and refusing to do it, can have some consequences! We were not left off the hook by our parents! I am wondering what stories you have to tell about your own experiences! Let us see what Jesus is getting at here in our passage this morning, and what lessons we can learn!

II. Jesus' Authority challenged:

In our first section of the Matthew passage, we see Jesus' authority being challenged by the chief priests and the elders. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. These things meant His presence in their temple, and the things He was doing and saying that gave Him an authority that was threatening their own power. He was not even from their region, but came from the North down to Judea, as a Messiah, with all His followers who witnessed all the things He had been doing and teaching. You can imagine how that must have felt for them, right?

Jesus refused to answer them directly. He instead, asked them about John's baptism, which put the chief priests and the elders in a bind. They were talking among each other about what they should say about John. In the end they told Jesus they did not know, by which Jesus responded that He would not tell them by which authority He was doing the things He did.

Why did Jesus ask them about John's baptism? It was clear that Jesus regarded John the Baptist as an important messenger from God, with an authority on the

same level as His own authority.

John came with a purpose, which was to bring a message of righteousness, the will of God to the people. Also, John and Jesus were connected to each other, because of John's earlier baptism of Jesus Christ, and of whom he said, the One who will come after me. John came for a divine purpose, so their answer to the question of John's baptism, would have had to include the fact that they heard his message of righteousness, which would then leave them open for scrutiny about their unbelief in his message.

III. Tax Collectors and Prostitutes, and the righteous chief priests and elders:

We will now look at our second section of the passage, how Jesus really answers their question and how He brings John and his role and purpose back into the conversation. As always, Jesus illustrates His message with a story, a parable. Here He starts by asking them what they think and then He tells them about a family with a vineyard, about the two sons who were instructed by their father to go and work in the vineyard. The first son heard the request, refuses at first, but then changes his mind and goes out to do the work. The second son heard the same message, says he will go, but did not go. Jesus then asked them what they thought, who did the will of the father. They answered the first one who changed his mind and went.

Then Jesus tells them about the tax collectors and the prostitutes who will go ahead of the priests and elders into the Kingdom of God. These lowly people in Jewish society, who were despised by these same leaders, heard John's message of the will of God, and responded positively to it, because they needed it for their own lives. They believed in John the Baptist's message, and because of that, they will go ahead of these leaders into the Kingdom of God. They are like the son who turned around and said, yes father, I am sorry, I will go and work in the vineyard. But you, Jesus says, you did not believe in the message of righteousness, you were yourselves too righteous to think you needed to follow the message John brought to you; you refused to turn your lives around to face God and repent of your ways; you refused to believe in John the Baptist, and that's why you couldn't answer My question about his baptism, Jesus says. You knew what his baptism was all about, but it did not touch your hearts, and because of that, “I tell you the truth”, you will suffer the humiliation of being shown the way into the Kingdom of God by the same people you despise, the tax collectors and prostitutes.

IV. Outcasts and the Kingdom of God:

Jesus' instruction about tax collectors and prostitutes is still relevant for us in the church of Christ. He speaks to us about the outcasts of society, the ones

See SERMONS, page 13

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2000
Docket No. WO20C0287CA
In the matter of:
Joseph Mason Williams, IV
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE

NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Joseph Mason Williams, IV of Gilbertville, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Yusuke Sakura Williams
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court

before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/27/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 22, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
10/01/2020

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Region

OSV lists fall weekend events

STURBRIDGE — Visitors are in for a whole host of fun activities when they visit Old Sturbridge Village this fall, with four themed weekends celebrating apples, farming trade and the autumn harvest. With a working farm and an ox-powered Cider Mill on-site, guests to OSV will get a firsthand look at the process of bringing food in from field-to-table and harvesting practices of the early 19th century.

“The positive numbers of visitors to the Village over the past few months has assured us that families are excited to create memories and experience the great outdoors,” says Jim Donahue, president and CEO of Old Sturbridge Village. “With these fall programs and activities, we are working every day to ensure that we provide fun and enriching opportunities in a safe and comforting environment for all ages.”

Apple outings will be held Oct. 3-4. One of the most popular items of the fall harvest is apples, but varieties were different in the 19th-century from today. Guests can learn about the winter banana, granniwinkle, hagloe crab and blue

permain apples, among others and witness the process of squeezing apples into cider, a more robust and fermented drink than the sweet cider of today. Throughout the day during Apple Outings weekends, OSV interpreters will be cooking and preserving apples from the harvest and operating the ox-powered Cider Mill.

Oxen, fields and farmers weekend Oct. 10-12. Guest oxen will be visiting the village during the holiday weekend, available for meet and greets. Visitors can learn about plowing and field preparation while at OSV and meet the village’s other animals - sheep, cattle, pigs, and chickens who live on-site. Tradesmen will be working throughout the weekend in the blacksmith shop, potters’ shop and more and the horse-drawn wagon will be running to take visitors around the scenic campus to see the gorgeous fall foliage.

Autumn Harvest Weekend is Oct. 17-18. In the last of the village’s themed fall weekends, visitors are invited to celebrate the autumn harvest! Costumed interpreters will be busy at work preserving the harvest, prepping apples, potatoes, carrots, beets

and more for storage and cooking, shelling corn and beans, and putting the gardens to bed for winter. It’s a sight to see with the whole village busy at work. Farm animals, demonstrations led by artisan crafters and horse-drawn wagon rides will also be offered during Autumn Harvest Weekend.

New this year, the Village is hosting a Virtual Home Gardener’s Exhibit to help guests celebrate the fall harvest from near and far. Those who enter the exhibit can present what they’ve been growing in their gardens throughout the year, showcased during a digital display of entries available online during the weekend of Oct. 17-18. Expert horticulturalists will be judging the entries, choosing the best in several categories including Best in Young Gardeners (ages 5-12), Best in Adult Gardeners (ages 13 and up), Best Heirloom, and Best Overall. Those interested in entering the virtual exhibit can sign up online at: <https://www.osv.org/event/virtual-home-gardeners-exhibit-2020/>.

The village is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. during Apple Outings and Oxen, Fields, and Farmers weekends, and 9:30 a.m.

to 4 p.m. during Autumn Harvest Weekend. Themed fall weekends and activities are included with standard daytime admission into the village. The village will also be hosting a series of Halloween-themed events, to be announced in the coming weeks.

Visitors and members are required to purchase or reserve their tickets in advance, using OSV’s new online reservation system, found at <https://www.osv.org/plan-your-visit/>. Available tickets will be released each week on Wednesday, with three blocks of time per day for arrival: 10 to 11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. Once in the village, visitors are welcome to stay until the museum closes.

Guests are required to follow state guidelines when visiting OSV and must wear a mask when entering into the village, interacting with staff or other guests or when physical distancing is not possible. Masks may be removed when outside and physically distant from staff or other visitors. A full list of safety procedures and measures can be found online at: <https://www.osv.org/plan-your-visit/>.

Rays of Hope to hold hybrid virtual challenge

SPRINGFIELD – Until there is a cure for breast cancer, “hope” will never be canceled, even in the face of the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic.

Twenty seven years ago Rays of Hope made history with the first Rays of Hope Walk Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer, and this October another chapter is being added with the first Rays of Hope Walk and Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer Hybrid Virtual Challenge 2020.

“Our first priority is the health and safety of our community, including the Rays of Hope family. Now more than ever, cancer survivors need our support and we cannot afford to stop the important research funded by this event. We are excited to offer this creative, twist on our annual gathering so that we can continue to spread hope, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Kathy Tobin, director of Annual Giving and Events for Baystate Health Foundation.

There are three important and easy steps to join this year’s Rays of Hope event: Register as an individual, create or join a team. This year there is a \$30 registration fee, which includes a collectible Rays of Hope 2020 t-shirt.

Participants can begin their fundraising immediately by asking friends, family, co-workers and neighbors to make a donation. They can create their own online fundraising page including asking for donations in lieu of birthday or wedding gifts, providing challenges and incentives. People can also host their own socially distant and safe fundraising event such as a dress down day, virtual pink party or whatever creative concept they can design.

This year they can walk or run wherever and whenever they choose from now through October. If they prefer, maps and directions to replicate the traditional Rays of Hope routes are available on the ROH website.

Then, Sunday, Oct. 25, there will be an innovative new drive-through Parade of Hope from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for registered participants.

The event will be held at Baystate Health’s 361 Whitney Avenue facility in Holyoke.

With their ROH Registration displayed on the dashboard, participants will drive under the iconic Golden Years’ sponsored Pink Arch. Images and messages of hope will be displayed on the Pink Jumbotron, sponsored by Radiology & Imaging, as they drive the route. A radio station will entertain during the drive and there will even be a traditional water stop along the route. The drive-through Parade of Hope offers participants the opportunity to pick up their 2020 t-shirt. BIG WIGS, who raise \$1,000 or more online, can pick up their special goodie bags. Breast Cancer survivors will also receive a gift from the Pink Hope Lounge.

Then, at noon, following the parade, there will be an online Pink Celebration. The event will feature 2020 Rays of Hope Chairs Al and Jackie Rodriguez, as well as Rays of Hope founder Lucy Giuggio Carvalho and a hopeful message from Dr. Grace Makari-Judson, chair, Baystate Health Breast Network, and co-director of the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research. There will also be entertainment, a salsa lesson and more online fun.

All Rays of Hope funds remain local to support breast cancer survivors in western Massachusetts, the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research and local community programs. This year’s Rays of Hope major sponsors include Baystate Breast & Wellness Center, Baystate Breast Specialists, Radiology & Imaging, Golden Years Home Care Services, Kinsley Power Systems, , USA Waste & Recycling Inc. and Zasco Productions. A listing of all sponsors can be found on the Rays of Hope website. Also, all Baystate Health Foundation events are underwritten by Health New England. For more information about this year’s Rays of Hope event, people may call 413-794-8001 or visit Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer Hybrid Virtual Challenge 2020.

WAM reopens to the public on Oct. 7

WORCESTER – The Worcester Art Museum, which has been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic since March 13, announced it will reopen to the public Wednesday, Oct. 7.

In addition to a series of special exhibitions and presentations, the museum also announced that several free virtual programs, including Zip Zoom Tours, Arms and Armor Presentations, a Fall Community Day and Master Series Third Thursday Art Talk, will be held throughout the fall. Dates, details, and links to participate will be posted on worcesterart.org. In addition, the museum is offering a variety of online studio art and art history classes for adults and youth. Class and registration information is available at portal.worcesterart.org/classes.

The museum will be open to the public on Wednesdays from noon-4 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and third Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The museum also will be open to the public on Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To ensure a safe, enjoyable experience, the museum is implementing a number of safety protocols following state and local guidelines and asks that all visitors adhere to these policies as they plan their visit.

Entry to the museum will be timed with all members and visitors required to reserve or purchase tickets in advance. Tickets will be made available for specific entry times between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Tickets will be available online after Sept. 21. The maximum group size is five visitors.

As mandated by the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts, all museum staff and visitors age five and older are required to wear a mask or cloth face covering for the duration of their time in the museum.

While inside the museum, visitors must observe six feet of physical distance between themselves and others outside their party including museum employees.

Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout many areas of the museum and all public areas will have enhanced cleaning schedules.

All visitors to the museum must enter and exit through the Salisbury Street Entrance, which is fully accessible. Please note that no more than five people may enter the museum at the same time.

For full information on new safety policies, how to plan a visit and to purchase tickets, all WAM visitors are asked to visit worcesterart.org. Timed tickets will be available for purchase after Sept. 21.

The following exhibitions and special loans will be on view when WAM reopens on Oct. 7:

Beyond Midnight: Paul Revere; Nature Imagined by Susan Swinand; Vincent van Gogh, Portrait of Postman Roulin, 1888 and Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso.

Additional information about the museum’s schedule of public programs and classes throughout the fall can be found on the website at worcesterart.org.

The Worcester Art Museum,

located at 55 Salisbury St., is open to the public Wednesday from noon-4 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The museum is open for Members only on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$8 for children 4-17, \$14 for seniors 65 plus and for college students with ID. Admission is free for museum members and children under age four. On the first Sunday of each month, admission is free for everyone. Museum parking is free. All visitors are asked to enter the Museum through the Salisbury Street entrance. For more information, people may visit worcesterart.org.

Send Us Your Holiday Event Information

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our Holiday Dazzler Supplement which publishes Nov. 18th.

Deadline for submissions is October 22nd.

Community Holiday Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

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Public Safety

Hardwick Police Log

For the week of Sept. 21-28, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department conducted 67 building/property checks, 8 radar assignments, 20 motor vehicle stops, 18 directed/area patrols, 5 traffic controls, 5 animal calls, 11 emergency 911 calls, 5 citizen assists, 3 assist other agencies and 1 complaint in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, Sept. 21
4:23 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning
6:16 p.m. 911 – Hang-up Call East Street – Negative Contact

Tuesday, Sept. 22
11:26 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Bridge Street – Transported to Hospital
7:46 p.m. 911 – Hang-up Call Old Petersham Road – Officer Handled

Wednesday, Sept. 23
4:12 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued
5:13 a.m. Phone – Medical Alarm

Highland Terrace – Transported to Hospital
8:14 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Jackson Road – Services Rendered
8:35 a.m. 911 – Burglary (Breaking and Entering) Bridge Street – Officer Handled
5:31 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
6:02 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
11:14 p.m. Phone – Suspicious Activity Main Street – Services Rendered

Thursday, Sept. 24
3:16 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Petersham Road – Citation Issued
8:59 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Creamery Road – Arrest(s) Made

Friday, Sept. 25
3:58 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Old Petersham Road – Citation Issued

7:38 p.m. Phone – Suspicious Activity Main Street – Investigated

Saturday, Sept. 26
1:04 p.m. 911 – Misdial Turkey Street – Spoken To
4:30 p.m. 911 – Animal Call School House Drive – Services Rendered

Sunday, Sept. 27
5:49 a.m. Phone – Medical Emergency Barre Road – Services Rendered
5:18 p.m. Phone – 911 Misdial Petersham Road – Services Rendered
6:09 p.m. Radio – Safety Hazard Barre Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
7:49 p.m. 911 – Complaint North Street – Services Rendered

Monday, Sept. 28
12:23 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Written Warning
6:48 a.m. 911 – Assist Citizen Bridge Street – Arrest(s) Made

New Braintree Police Log

For the week of Sept. 21-28, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department conducted 21 building/property checks, 12 radar assignments, 6 motor vehicle stops, 16 directed/area patrols, 2 emergency 911 calls, 1 citizen assist and 1 assist other agency in the town of New Braintree.

Tuesday, Sept. 22
12:21 p.m. Phone – Illegal Dumping

West Road – Negative Contact
9:49 p.m. 911- Medical Emergency Hardwick Road – Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, Sept. 23
5:40 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
6:02 p.m. 911 – Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting McEvoy Road – Negative Contact

Saturday, Sept. 26
7:52 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Citation Issued
4:12 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop West Brookfield Road – Citation Issued

Sunday, Sept. 27
11:33 a.m. Phone – Fire, Illegal Burn/Permit Gilbertville Road – Extinguished

Fire Prevention Week addresses cooking safety

REGION -The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 95 years, has announced “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen™” as the theme for Fire Prevention Week™, Oct. 4-10. This year’s focus on cooking fire safety is supported by findings from NFPA’s newly released U.S. Home Cooking Fires report, which shows that cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home fires and home fire injuries; nearly half (49% of all U.S. home fires are caused by cooking activities.

“Cooking continues to be a major contributor to the home fire problem,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of NFPA’s Outreach and Advocacy division. “This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign works to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist, along with basic but critical ways to prevent them.”

According to the report, approximately 173,000 cooking fires occur in homes each year, resulting in 550 civilian deaths, 4,820 reported civilian fire injuries, and more than \$1 billion in direct property damage.

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home cooking fires and associated fatalities. A survey conducted

this year by the American Red Cross underscores the prevalence of this behavior, with nearly 70% of respondents saying they’ve left the kitchen while cooking on the stove; 55% of U.S. adults say they have walked away from their grill while cooking.

Carli notes that focusing on these and other cooking safety issues during Fire Prevention Week is particularly timely because of the pandemic. “As the public continues to remain at home in response to COVID-19, cooking will continue to occur at increased levels, presenting a greater risk for associated fires. Fire Prevention Week serves as an ideal opportunity to share tips and guidelines for safely cooking at home.”

Key messages around this year’s campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen,” include:

Never leave cooking unattended; keep a close eye on what you’re cooking.

Remove anything that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, and dish towels, well away from the stovetop and other cooking equipment.

Be alert while cooking. If you are sleepy, taking medication that makes you drowsy, or under the influence of alcohol or other substances, avoid cooking.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and this year’s theme, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen,” along with resources to help promote the campaign locally, visit fpw.org.

Founded in 1896, NFPA® is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeclass.

NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™ since 1922. According to the National Archives and Records Administration’s Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation declaring a national observance during that week every year since 1925. Visit www.firepreventionweek.org for more safety information.

AARP Massachusetts fraud watch

Did you know that someone’s identity gets stolen every two seconds? The AARP Fraud Watch Network provides you with tips and resources to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud so you can protect yourself and your family. Our watchdog alerts will keep you up to date on con artists’ latest tricks. It’s free of charge for everyone: AARP members, non-members, and people of all ages. Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork for more information on fraud prevention.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network is:

An Educator: Get real-time alerts about the latest scams, tips on how to spot them, and the inside scoop on how con artists think so you can outsmart them before they strike.

A Watchdog: Our nationwide scam tracking map gives you access to a network of people who’ve spotted scams and the opportunity to pass along your own experiences, so together we can beat con artists at their own game.

A Resource: Get connected to a real live person trained in how to avoid fraud and advise you if you or a loved one has been scammed by calling our fraud hotline or attending a forum in your community.

Free for Everyone: Anyone, of any age, can access our resources at no cost.

Unemployment COVID scam

According to the Federal Trade Commission, scammers have filed fraudulent unemployment claims using stolen identities of many US workers. This scheme is costing states millions of dollars.

If you receive a letter from your state unemployment agency

stating you have been approved for benefits, alert your employer. Then report it to your state unemployment agency, note when you reported it and write down the case number for your records. Then visit www.identitytheft.gov to get information on next steps. You should request a copy of your credit report from each of the three credit bureaus at www.annualcreditreport.com. All agencies are offering free weekly reports online through April 2021. Finally, consider placing a fraud alert with the credit bureaus (contact one and the others will comply). This move will require a lender to notify you if someone is trying to take out a loan or open a credit card using your identity.

Psychology of scams

One of the hardest things to understand about scams can be how victims become victims. When you hear about a scam secondhand, the red flags can seem obvious. What isn’t obvious in the retelling of the story is the intense emotional state scammers create. Today’s fraudsters are trained in psychological manipulation. They know how to get their targets out of their logical thinking and into an emotional state where logic goes out the window.

Scammers will keep their victims in the ether as long as they can; many will never see the signs until it is too late. Understanding these tactics can help you avoid scammers and help friends and loved ones who might be in this situation.

COVID Contact tracing scams

The coronavirus has created a perfect storm for scammers. One unique scam to arise this summer is scammers posing as contact tracers working for state health departments.

Contact tracing is an important part of efforts to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Approaches to contact tracing

will vary by state; but know in all states, legitimate tracers will never ask for money, bank account information, Social Security Numbers, credit card numbers, or medical insurance information. You may receive a text from a contact tracer to inform you they will be in contact by phone. If a text like this tells you to click a link, it’s a scam. Clicking will download software on your device to access personal and financial information. When in doubt, don’t act before contacting your state health department to find out what process they are using.

Tech Support – COVID scams

It’s back to school season in the time of coronavirus, and for many families it means more working from home and attending school from home. Scammers will take advantage of this to scare people into thinking their device has been attacked by malicious software – a nightmare for workers and students alike.

The “tech support” scam typically involves a phone call with someone claiming to be with Microsoft, Dell, or another well-known tech company, claiming they have identified a virus on your computer. Or, you will see a pop up message on your computer with a phone number to call right away to deal with a virus. In both scenarios, the scammer’s goal is to get you to allow them to access your computer remotely in an effort to steal financial and personal information. If tech support calls, it’s a scam. If you get the popup and your computer freezes, simply shut down and restart your computer and it should go away.

Be a fraud fighter. If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraud-watchnetwork.

SERMONS, continued from page 12

who always feel they are less-er than, who are being judged for their transgressions, who always are being looked down upon by the ones who claim for themselves the authority to oppress and look down upon others. Jesus sees and understands this phenomenon of the outcasts and the ones in authority. He can enter the spaces of those in pain, who feel they need to hear the message of the will of God, because there is redemption and healing in that message. There is love, the love from God that soothes their pain. He is also able to enter the minds of those who think they are already in heaven, but who look down upon others, who do not believe in the kind of love that John the Baptist taught them about, the love for God and for

all people. Jesus does not allow Himself to be challenged, but He uses this as a teachable moment for them to learn from, to see their ways, their treatment of the lowly, and their refusal to learn about the will of God. Of course, Jesus opened Himself up to be persecuted and to be crucified in the end. He was such a threat to the authority of His day, and that is why they challenged Him by which authority He did what He did.

V. Conclusion:

There is no other way than to ask ourselves this morning, “Who are the outcasts today in our society?” Who are these people our Lord and Saviour is holding up this morning, who, like the tax collectors and prostitutes will go ahead and pave the way into the Kingdom of God?

Then we must ask, “Who are the ones who despise these outcasts in society? Who are they?” Is it

me, Lord? Is it us, Lord? If it is me, if it is us, Lord, forgive me, forgive us, and help us to turn ourselves toward You and Your love and Your will, so we can inherit the Kingdom of God with clean hearts. Also, do we know and see where such treatment of the outcasts is happening?

If so, we are being called, just like John the Baptist, to speak out and remind those about God’s righteousness, about God’s commandment to love God and all our neighbors as ourselves.

May the Holy Spirit give us the courage to leave here and be instruments of God’s righteous will to speak and live in such a way, that Jesus Christ does not always have to tell another parable!

Amen

Pastor Margaret Keyser

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NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

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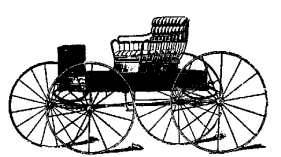
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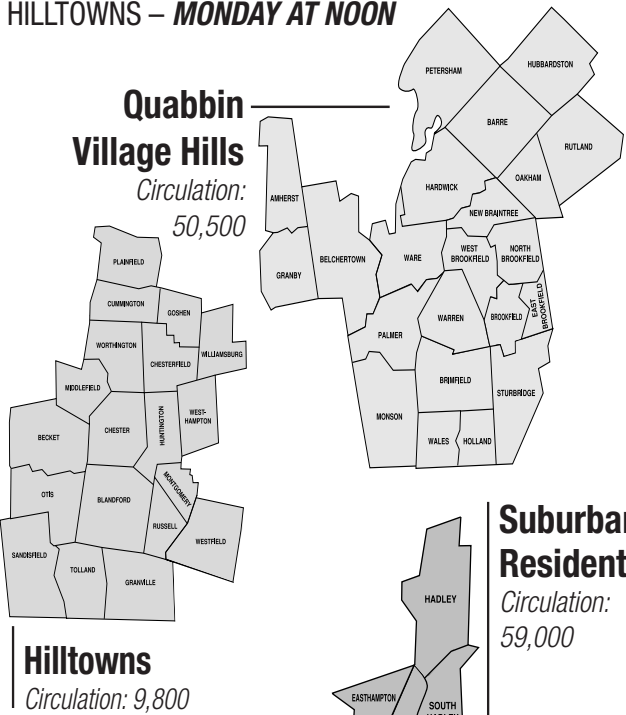
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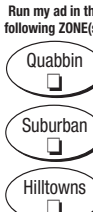
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October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

SPRINGFIELD – Recent surveys identified a major dip in cancer screenings since the novel coronavirus outbreak, with one report noting breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings dropping 94% in March.

Women, who missed a mammogram during the shutdown and haven’t rescheduled an appointment, now is the time to do so as October’s Breast Cancer Awareness Month serves as a reminder about the importance of getting screened. Baystate Health began routine screening mammography once again in June, yet some women still

have not rescheduled their mammograms, some out of fear for catching COVID-19, noted Dr. Jennifer Hadro, interim medical co-director, Baystate Breast and Wellness Center. “Delaying a visit to the hospital can be dangerous to your health. Mammograms can reveal problems before you have symptoms and can detect breast cancer when it’s small and easiest to treat,” said Dr. Hadro.

She noted Baystate is taking detailed measures to keep patients safe when visiting the hospital. Among the protocols in place include: requiring masks for patients and visitors, rigorously cleaning

our hospitals and clinics following stringent infection control guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), screening for COVID-19 symptoms, providing caregivers with essential PPE, and practicing social distancing.

Baystate’s highly-trained team of radiology experts use the latest digital equipment, including newer 3D mammography, referred to as digital breast tomosynthesis, to perform more than 60,000 mammograms a year. As opposed to 2D mammograms, 3D mammograms take multiple images or “slices” of the

breast from different angles to create a three-dimensional picture of the breast. The “slices” can reduce images with overlapping breast tissue and give doctors a clearer image of the breast tissue.

“Using 3D mammography has several benefits. Studies show that 3D can significantly decrease the number of false positives, meaning fewer patients are called back for additional imaging. In addition, 3D mammography has been shown in studies to increase the number of breast cancers detected at screening,” said Dr. Hadro, who noted most insurances will now cover 3D screening.

If you’ve never had a mammogram, Dr. Hadro recommends talking with your physician to determine when it is right for you to begin screening. Most women should start screening mammograms at age 40. If they are at high risk due to family or personal history, their doctor may recommend that they begin regular screenings before age 40. Women should expect to have a mammogram at least every one to two years.

Possible signs and symptoms of breast cancer that could indicate a need for evaluation by a doctor include: new lump in the breast or underarm, irritation or dimpling of

breast skin, redness or flat skin in the nipple area of the breast, pulling in of the nipple, nipple discharge other than breast milk that is spontaneous (not occurring with self-examination), including blood and any change in the size or the shape of your breast.

After talking with with doctor about screening, women can make an appointment for a mammogram at one of Baystate Health’s several mammography locations across western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut by filling out a form at baystatehealth.org/getscreened or calling 413-794-2222.

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